

J. AL PATTON IS HELD FOR FORGERY President of Lumber Company Is in County Jail.

BOND FIXED AT \$50,000

Federal Information Alleges False Bills of Lading Issued to Obtain Money.

Under bond of \$50,000 J. Al Patton, president and manager of the J. Al Patton Lumber Company, is held in Multnomah County Jail following his arrest yesterday under Federal charges of uttering false bills of lading and obtaining money upon these as collateral.

The arrest creates a sensation because of the prominence of Mr. Patton and the admission that the sum he is charged with having procured from local banks is large.

The rapid and somewhat meteoric rise of the lumberman as depicted in literature of his own company, from the time he had put "55 cents capital" adds interest to the case. Associates say of him that he has "played a lone hand" and has been rapidly expanding his business.

Bonds Not Furnished.

After his appearance before United States Commissioner Drake and attempt to obtain the big bond stipulated, Mr. Patton was lodged in jail, where he was held last night practically incommunicado.

The J. Al Patton Lumber Company has maintained offices in the Morgan building, rooms 324-325. Mr. Patton formerly lived at the Multnomah Amateur Athletic club, but has since maintained a residence at Cottage Grove west of the time.

The arrest of the lumberman was made by Deputy United States Marshal Tichenor, after he had been examined by Federal representatives. Coincident with this examination a search warrant was issued and records in the office of the firm were gone over.

United States Commissioner Drake, before whom Patton was immediately taken, fixed the bond at \$50,000, indicating that the amounts the accused man is alleged to have obtained by fraudulent proceeds are large. United States District Attorney Haney admitted that the sum is "considerable" and that Federal authorities, including a bank examiner, had gone into the case. Further than this he declined to give out information and also declined to permit interviews with the arrested man.

Forgery Is Alleged.

Mr. Patton is charged in the information with "the offense of falsely making, altering, forging and counterfeiting bills of lading, purporting to represent goods received for shipment among the several states of the United States, with intent to defraud, and the offense of uttering and publishing as true and genuine such falsely made, or altered, forged and counterfeited bills of lading, and with intent to issuing and aiding in issuing and procuring the issuance and of negotiating and transferring for value such bills of lading with said intent."

Mr. Patton organized the lumber company of which he is the head, in 1914. It has operated a mill near Harborsburg, Ore., and is believed to have an interest in another small mill. In literature put out some time ago by Mr. Patton it is said that the firm operates three mills in the state.

Primarily the firm deals in imported and domestic hardwoods. Imported woods, consisting of oak, ironwood, rosewood, lignum vitae and silver oak are listed as being brought in from Australia, Philippine Islands, Japan, India and Mexico.

Before forming his company here Mr. Patton was successively located at Aberdeen, Wash.; Montezano, Wash.; was superintendent for the C. Smith Lumber Company, Marshall, Ore., and buyer for the Northwest Lumber Products Company, of Portland. His firm is sales agent for Mitsui & Co., of Tokio, Japan.

BOCHE PLIGHT IS DEPICTED

MANY YEARS DECLARED NEEDED TO RECOVER TRADE.

British Bankers Says United States Wins Favor in South America.

Germans Not Popular.

NEW YORK.—Dr. G. Davidson, a British banker who has spent a long time in this country on his way to South America, said that he thought it would take Germany from five to ten years to put herself back in a position to make an effective bid for her lost trade in South American countries. Mr. Davidson is inspector of branches for the Anglo-South American Bank, whose home office is in London. He will visit the bank's twenty-three branches in South America.

While Germany is preparing again to make her attempt to regain her South American business, which has been absolutely lost since the war began, the allies, in the meantime, are doing everything to procure and hold that part of the business which formerly went to the Teutons. He said "Incidentally, the United States is very favorably thought of in South America, especially along the west coast."

Statements that American manufacturers did not meet the wishes of South American business men in the class of goods offered and that our manufacturers were, as a class, too independent and refused to observe packing and shipping directions given by their South American customers, were said by Mr. Davidson to be exaggerated. He thought this was more applicable to English than to American manufacturers. The attitude of the English manufacturer was: "Here is what we make. You may take them or leave them."

Mr. Davidson will, during his trip, make certain investigations in connection with regard to the wool held there on German account. This wool, on which the Germans have made part payment and have met storage and insurance charges, is being held there in the hope that the minute the war is over it can be sent to Germany as part of the cargo of the thirty-eight German ships which are lying in Argentine waters. In the neighborhood of 100,000,000 pounds of raw wool is thus held in Argentina, it was estimated by the banker. He believes that Germany's partial ownership of the wool and other commodities in South America and other parts of the world may become a factor in the terms of peace settlement.

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Wirthmors are gaining steadily in popularity as a result of the good quality and style they offer women in search of inexpensive waists. Those unacquainted with the Wirthmor standard will marvel that waists of such character can be made to sell for \$1.50. The Wirthmor agency is confined to this store in Portland. —Meier & Frank's: Fourth Floor. (Mail Orders Filled.)



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Women's \$15.00-\$25.00 Blouses for Only \$8.95
Evening and Afternoon Slippers, Pair for \$4.65
Women's Shoes Priced at \$4.35, \$5.65 and \$11.95
Women's \$5.00 Silk Umbrellas Priced Only \$3.49
Sale of Women's Umbrellas Now at Only \$1.83
Women's Linen and Lawn Handkerchiefs at 37c
Children's and Misses' Handkerchiefs Only 11c
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Sale of Girls' Party Dresses, Priced at 1/4 Off
\$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00 Silks, Yard for \$2.49
Sale of Fine Embroideries, Yard at Only 49c
Dress Flouncings, Yard, Special at Only \$1.98
Laces for Party Frocks on Sale, Yard for 59c
Sale of 25c to 35c Edges, Special, Yard, Only 18c
\$3.00 Mercerized Table Cloths Now for \$2.50
Special Sale of 40c Hand Towels, Now Only 25c
60c Turkish Bath Towels Now at Only 50c
\$18.00 Fancy Bed Spreads, Special Sale, \$12.00
\$22.00 Bed Spreads, Special for Only \$15.00
Sale of \$35.00 Axminster Rugs, Special \$29.50
Sale of \$45.00 Rugs, Priced Special at \$37.50
The "Glory" Universal Range Priced \$8.50 Off
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Looking Back—and Forward

It is safe and proper to say that this store, which has grown steadily with Portland for the past 61 years, made more new friends during 1918 than in any year in its history besides establishing new bonds with its many thousands of old friends. The holiday business especially broke all records. All or nearly all this we foresaw and prepared for. Stocks were replenished and freshened with great regularity. Our representatives were constantly in the market looking for the newest and best in keeping with the MEIER & FRANK quality-standards and, thanks to our tremendous purchasing power, we got what we wanted. NO STORE in the West was in a better position entering the year 1919.

Our Reconstruction and Readjustment Sales now in progress, some of which are epitomized on this page, are the best proof that we mean to maintain and heighten our merchandising supremacy at the outset of the new year and other events to come will show that this program will be consistently followed during the year 1919.

The January White Sales of 1919

Continue With Unabated Vigor—Great Savings Abound in Undermuslins, Corsets, Laces, Embroideries, Linens, Etc.

great thoroughness and in great detail. At this point Mr. Davidson turned to Russian matters, and, speaking of that Nation's opportunities, he said that before the advent of the Bolsheviks Russia had the opportunity of being the greatest Nation in the world in every sense of the word. That opportunity now had gone forever, he thought. He said that Russia had had before her, through the Dardanelles, her undeveloped natural resources, and her immense population, a future that was unrivaled in history.

Mr. Davidson scoffed at the reports that Germany, during the war, had been able to build large numbers of merchant vessels with which to capture the ocean-going trade of the world and to offset the losses she had suffered by the seizure of her own merchantmen. "Her first duty," he said, "will be to fill her own shelves."

Touching upon the feelings of South Americans and people of other nationalities whom he had studied in regard to the Germans, Mr. Davidson declared that the business men of the various countries, in the majority of cases, were not "especially fond" of the Germans, individually or collectively. Neither, in the majority of cases, did these people like the German residents in their respective countries, he declared. He believes that the Germans as a class have been too stupid and too Prussian in their dealings with their foreign customers to be able to regain or hold their former business through good will.

Man Found Murdered. SAN FRANCISCO.—With his pockets rifled and his head beaten to a pulp, the body of a well-dressed but thus far unidentified man about 35, apparently a foreigner, was found in an excavation at Sansome and Broadway. All marks of identification had been removed by the assailant.

Jobless Millions Predicted. LONDON.—Lord Curzon, member of the War Cabinet, estimates 1,000,000 persons will be out of employment in the next few weeks, owing to cessation of munition work of various kinds. The government, therefore, has decided to expand the staffs of employment exchanges throughout the country to aid the eventual readjustment of some 1,000,000 persons to peacetime conditions.

Military Policewoman Valuable. LONDON.—War conditions has shown officialdom here the value of women "military policewomen," so London has decided to enroll 200 "lady cops" to patrol the down-town district during peace time. Their attention will be directed mainly toward prevention of evil doing, especially by women. Pay will be \$10 a week for the first year. The women policemen also will be of women pedestrians and assisting value in giving aid and information to traffic.

Owing to lack of vessels for carrying grain abroad, the hotels, industrial establishments and railroads of Argentina have been using corn for fuel. A gas company at Buenos Aires has been burning wheat and flour in the manufacture of gas.