

LUMBER TRADE IS GROWING STRONGER

Manufacturers Declare Present Year Will Witness Unusual Activity.

COAST MARKET IS BRISK

Demand for Various Products May Result in Improving Prices—Opening of Panama Canal to Be Big Stimulus.

From the present outlook and from the expression of the manufacturers, there is every reason to believe that the lumber industry will reach big proportions in 1913. The foreign trade gives promise of a large volume, while the coastwise traffic continues strong. According to Portland millmen, virtually every item on the lumber list is strong at present prices. Many lines, such as timbers, retail yard orders and car material, show a decided upward tendency. It is generally believed that the demand during the next two months will advance the prices on this stuff materially. Stimulus also has been given the lumber industry by the recent heavy orders placed by the car-building companies.

"There is every indication that the lumber industry will reach its greatest growth in 1913," said George W. Akers, manager of the Rose City Lumber & Shingle Company, yesterday. "The general prosperity of the country will be characterized by a great building activity. Such a condition will have a wholesome effect on the lumber trade. Already many of the big yards in the Middle West, I understand, are practically depleted of their stocks. By the opening of the Spring building activity, these retail yards must be filled with lumber. Portland lumber manufacturers report many big orders from those yards, and are now engaged in filling the contracts."

"The shingle trade is somewhat quiet right now, but I believe it will become very strong in a short time. We expect a big trade this year with retailers in California, Texas, Utah and many of the Middle Western States. As the entire shingle output of the Portland district is shipped by rail, it is evident that the opening of the Panama Canal will mean much for this industry, as in future a big proportion of shingle shipments will be forwarded by water at advantageous rates, and besides a very material expansion of the market should follow. Shingle and lumber manufacturers of the Pacific Northwest should profit in an inestimable degree with the opening of the Panama Canal."

The Rose City Lumber & Shingle Company recently took over the University Lumber & Shingle Company's plant on the Peninsula. This plant has a capacity of 700,000 feet in a ten-hour run. The company also operates a shingle plant at Milwaukie, Ore., and Kalama, Wash. The combined daily output of the three plants is 1,200,000 feet of shingles.

In reviewing the lumber situation in the Far East, A. E. Carleton, Consul-General at Hongkong, has just issued the following report: "The Far Eastern Importers of Pacific Coast lumber are not buying great quantities at present, owing to the increased export duties and the high freight rates, which have been nearly doubled for future delivery. The stock on hand is estimated at about 1,500,000 board feet, and to this should be added 50,000 as unfilled contracts, a portion having already been shipped. Altogether there is a sufficient amount of lumber for present needs, and there is certain inquiry for future delivery of 650,000 feet."

"There is a good trade in Pacific Coast lumber the year round, as the daily sales of about 125,000 feet testify. The present (November, 1912) market quotations are from \$25 to \$25.50 gold currency per 100 feet, board measurement, for planing, and \$24.50 to \$25 for timbers ex-gedown; but at present there is a slight temporary lull in the demands."

The total output of sawmills in the state during the last year was 2,375,125,000 feet of lumber, according to figures prepared by Labor Commissioner Hoff. The total output of planing mills was 598,934,000 feet, and of the shingle mills 478,991,000 shingles. The total number of shooks, 57,478,000; boxes, 10,853,000, and crossties, 7,840,000 feet. During the year \$4,546,976.13 was paid for salaries of skilled labor and \$3,116,882 for unskilled labor.

WORK SOON WILL BEGIN

High-Power Line to The Dalles to Start With Clear Weather.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—As soon as weather conditions permit the Hydro-Electric Company, which has just secured a \$100,000 bond issue, will begin the construction of its high-power electric line to The Dalles, according to N. C. Evans, president of the company, who left here today for The Dalles to look after the work. The company has many other poles and other material, which are expected to arrive there within a few days.

"We will begin the construction of the line both here and at The Dalles," said Mr. Evans. "It has taken us some time to get our plans worked out so that we might proceed on some definite basis, but now we have everything in working order and will hasten the work as fast as weather conditions will permit."

The power plant of the Hydro-Electric Company will be built on the lower Hood River, a short distance above the dam of the connecting company, the Hood River Gas & Electric Company. The plant formerly constructed by the Hydro concern is about six miles from the city.

Lake County Attorney Named.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—John Irwin, District Attorney-elect, has selected Thomas S. Farrell, of Lakeview, as his deputy for Lake County. Mr. Farrell was elected Justice of the Peace for Lakeview precinct at the last election, but will resign that office to accept the position under Mr. Irwin.

Gasoline Launch Burns.

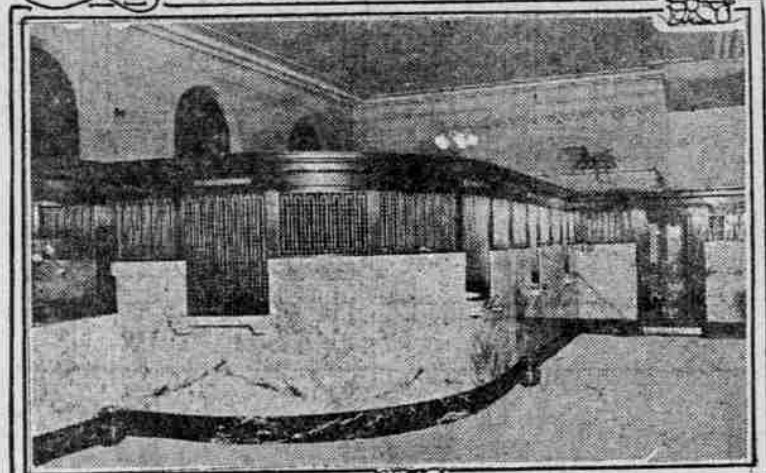
MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Leaking gasoline, catching on fire from defective sparking plugs, set the launch Mayflower on fire in the lower bay Monday morning, and it burned to the water's edge. Six passengers on board were rescued by the United States life-saving crew and landed safely. The launch was beached.

BEND FIRST NATIONAL BANK IS IN NEW HOME

Building Constructed at Cost of \$20,000 Is Fireproof and Contains Vault Door Hauled Across Plains in 1859.



First National Bank at Bend



Interior of First National Bank of Bend

BEND, Or., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—On Monday the new building erected by the First National Bank was opened there. The structure cost more than \$20,000, and is said to be as well appointed for a banking home as any in the city.

All day and evening Monday the officers of the bank kept "open house," and during the hours of entertainment the register showed more than 500 people came to inspect the handsome new building. An orchestra gave a programme, the rooms were decorated with flowers and every visitor went away either with carnations or cigars, according to their sex and inclination.

A unique feature of the equipment is that one of the three vaults has the oldest steel door in Oregon. The door in question was formerly in use in the Ladd & Tilton Bank in Portland, and was freighted across the plains in 1859. The building is two stories high, 50 by 70 feet in dimensions and is constructed of pressed brick and Bend-made brick, trimmed with Indiana limestone and is fireproof. The entire interior finish is of Vermont marble and mahogany, the fixtures all being specially designed for the building.

The bank's officers are: U. C. Coe, president; E. A. Sather, vice-president, and C. S. Hudson, cashier.

It and he did not spend it. County Commissioner Mattson was administrator and C. W. Devere, attorney in the settlement of the estate.

Building Sites Purchased.

J. B. Chambers, an architect and builder, has purchased six lots in Hollywood Addition from J. H. Tipton & Co. for \$6500. Mr. Chambers is preparing plans for new homes to be built on the sites early in the Spring. This firm sold to G. A. Eastman a quarter block at Stanton and East Thirty-fourth streets and also a quarter block at Stanton and East Thirty-third streets, paying \$4200 for the two sites. Mr. Eastman will improve the properties this year.

Danver's Island Sold.

Danver's Island, lying in the Columbia River, about four miles above the ferry landing at Hayden Island, was sold by Miss Mary Eleanor Knowles and associates last week to Dr. C. E. Bogue, of Portland, for \$14,000. The island contains 110 acres. The island is unimproved, but Dr. Bogue already has made plans for clearing the acreage and will operate the island as a dairy farm. In part payment the sellers accepted title to a modern home in Piedmont, valued at \$6000. The sale was negotiated by C. De Young.

ATTRACTIVE EAST SIDE RESIDENCE COMPLETED.



NEW HOME OF T. R. BALDWIN AT CRAMPTON AVENUE AND MILWAUKIE STREET.

One of the finest residences completed on the South East Side last year is the 10-room dwelling of T. R. Baldwin, of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company. The house occupies a fine site of a quarter block at the corner of Milwaukie street and Crampton avenue. It is a two and one-half-story building, with deep basement. The main rooms on the first floor are finished in white enamel. A large billiard-room is in the attic. The house is equipped with every modern feature in residence construction. It cost \$5000.

4330 JOBS PASSED

Plumbing Inspector's Report Shows Big Gain.

2816 IN NEW BUILDINGS

Record Made in 1912 Shows Rapid Growth of Portland and Progress in Bettering Sanitary Conditions in the Old Structures.

By far the busiest year on record for the City Plumbing Inspector was 1912, according to the annual report of that official, which has just been turned over to Mayor Rushlight. The report shows the remarkable growth of the city from a building standpoint and also indicates marked improvement of the sanitary conditions.

It is shown that during the year plumbing was inspected in 2816 new buildings, which is about 800 more than were inspected during any other

year since the plumbing inspection department has been in existence. Included in the number of buildings are residences of various classes, stores, buildings and office buildings and a number of factories.

Inspections Total 4330. The busiest months for the office were between February and June, when an average of 312 new structures were inspected each 30 days. Between June to about 200 per month. The inspection by months was as follows: January, 185; February, 205; March, 335; April, 351; May, 307; June, 245; July, 231; August, 227; September, 178; October, 218; November, 155; December, 143.

In addition to the new structures inspected there were 1514 old buildings taken in, which made the total number of inspections for the year 4330. The unusually large number of old buildings in which the plumbing was remodeled tells of the remarkable betterment of sanitary conditions. During the year there were 2845 houses connected with sewers.

In addition to the increase in sewer connections there were built during the year 1283 cesspools and four septic tanks. There were 27,424 fixtures examined by the inspectors during the year. The plumbing inspector and his deputies made 14,192 visits and in these required the remodeling of the plumbing in 313 buildings.

Licenses Not Collected. The busiest part of the plumbing and sewer work, according to the report, was during the first part of the year. The following are the sewers connected during the months: January, 158; February, 193; March, 248; April, 264;

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DALLAS PRUNE CITY

More Than 50,000 Trees to Be Planted This Year.

LAND DEVELOPMENT BIG

With 400 Acres in Prune Trees and Large Acreage Set to Logansberries and Small Fruits, Polk County's Progress Is Big.

More than 50,000 prune trees, representing an approximate expenditure of \$1500 by the people of Dallas and vicinity, have been received at Dallas within the past three weeks, according to the Dallas Observer. Nearly all the trees came from nurseries within the state.

This invoice of fruit trees indicated that the acreage of that variety of fruit will be greatly increased, and it is estimated that more than 400 acres will be set out to prunes in the vicinity of Dallas during the coming few months. Work of planting the trees has already begun, and it will be carried on in full blast during the next few weeks. There have also been a few receipts of other varieties of fruit, but Italian prunes comprised the major portion of the incoming shipments. It is believed that more prune trees will be planted in the vicinity of Dallas this winter than in all the balance of the state combined. Such is the declaration of the big nursery companies, who should be in a position to know.

In every direction tracts of land are being prepared for prune orchards, which, in a few years, will transform the country into one vast orchard. Oak-clad hillides are being grubbed and planted to prunes, the lower lands are receiving their quota of loganberries and other fruit, and a general movement appears to be in progress to abandon the idea of making a specialty of grain and gradually adopt fruit as a medium of income from the fertile acres of Polk County.

Among those of the Dallas business men who will branch out into the prune-growing industry are W. L. Soehren and N. L. Guy, who recently purchased 30 acres of the Williams tract south of the city. They will plant 20 acres to prunes this winter and 10 acres to loganberries. W. Wynn Johnson, proprietor of Sidney Orchards, south of town, one of the finest prune tracts in this vicinity, will add 15 acres to his already large orchard. Fred and Wesley Elliott and Dr. L. A. Bollman will also plant large orchards south of town, the latter utilizing a portion of the Williams tract which he recently purchased. North and northwest of the city there will also be seen several new prune orchards and additions to old ones. Horatio Morrison, who recently purchased 15 acres of the Guy estate, will plant the entire tract to a prune orchard, actual operations on this work beginning this week. Lott D. Brown will set out a new 25-acre orchard east of the city; Frank Brown will plant 10 acres, and George Brown a like amount. Henry Voth, David Nichtigal and Peter Neufeldt are among the residents of the Salt Creek district who will set out prune orchards. E. C. Kirkpatrick is making arrangements to plant five acres on his farm at Polk Station. Henry Clifford will plant 2000 trees, and Ray Craven will add a five-acre orchard to his tract near the city.

In the light of this greatly increased acreage, added to that already in bearing, there should be no question regarding a slogan for the city, and it is now more than ever entitled to the designation of "the Prune City." The steady and certain profit realized from the cultivation of this fruit has influenced the farmers and others in planting new orchards and that all others will follow their example is certain.

GRIEVANCES SET FORTH

Railroad Laborers Quit Work in Coos County.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Excessive charges for inferior fare and accommodations, charge for hospital fees, inflated prices for goods sold by the contractors, bad working conditions and employment under misrepresentation are reasons alleged for the strike of a number of laborers employed on the construction work of the Mattole-Pacific by Coos Bay Bros., contractors, at the Gardiner end of the line.

The men quit work this week and now an organizer for the Industrial Workers is in charge and has issued a list of the grievances. The men declare that they did not think that they should be made to pay hospital charges, when it was so far to a hospital that the benefit would be small, and also say they object to paying \$3 for a 44 pair of shoes, 10 cents for tobacco sold elsewhere for 5 cents, 60 cents for socks sold elsewhere for 25 cents, and say they had to pay their transportation to the work, when it was represented that the fare was free. About 20 of the men are here, where they have established headquarters, some are at Gardiner, and about 30 more have come to Eugene.

The State Labor Commissioner has been asked to investigate the conditions.

EDUCATOR WOMAN'S FRIEND

Chehalis County Man Helps Eligible Schoolma'ams to Find Husbands.

MONTESSANO, Wash., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—If there is an eligible woman school teacher who desires to get married, she will find a friend in County School Superintendent McKillip, of Chehalis County, who announces that he has two districts, which he has named "Cupid's Paradise." The two districts are Garrard Creek and North River, and every teacher, some blue in number, who has taught in these schools during the past four years, has won a husband and is happily married. Nor is that all, each teacher has secured a farmer for her "better half." The latest wedding happened at last, Garrard Creek yesterday, when Miss Elizabeth Kilenholtz and O. Allender were united in marriage, and McKillip has decided to advertise these two matrimonial centers to the world.

TAX EQUALIZATION DESIRED

State Levy Under Present Conditions Varies Widely.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 4.—(Special.)—Plans are under consideration for some method of equalizing the state tax levy.

Under the present system the tax levy for odd years provides only for actual known necessities for the year and the following January provision has to be made for all appropriations passed by the preceding Legislature. It has been suggested that an emergency fund be provided and a balance be carried therein, sufficient to meet any contingencies that are liable to arise without making the burden of taxation excessive in any one year.

Under the present condition the rate for 1913 will be approximately 1.5 mills, as against 2.4 mills in 1912.