

LUMBERMEN SAY BUSINESS IS GOOD

Market Is Reported Steady, With Practically All Business Done at Home.

FOREIGN SHIPPING DULL

Exporters Are at Standstill Due to Scarcity of Bottoms—Prices Are Said to Be Generally Higher Than Last Year.

TACOMA, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—With prices ranging about 20 per cent above those of a year ago, a steady market and a good demand in the United States despite the fact that the foreign business is at a standstill, Tacoma lumbermen express satisfaction with present conditions and foresee further improvement. Practically all Tacoma mills are running, with the exception of the Tacoma Mill Company's plant, and some are running night shifts.

One new mill is projected for the waterfront by the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company, if present conditions continue. The industry is showing strength based on prosperity such as has not been equaled in seven years, although nowhere approaching the boom conditions of 1905 and 1906.

Mills on the Tacoma Eastern, on the railroad branches in Southwest Washington, and elsewhere about the state, are fast resuming operations, but the strength of the present market, according to Tacoma lumbermen, has not been affected by the increased production.

Several large railroad inquiries have been received recently by local lumbermen from the Great Northern, the Burlington, the Northern Pacific and the Alaska Railroad Commission.

The south and door cases has not reached a capacity business as yet, according to T. E. Ripley, vice-president of the Wheeler-Osgood Company. Conditions, however, are much improved.

"The boom has not yet been struck," said Mr. Ripley. "The good-producing capacity built up several years ago upon an abnormal demand, is still in excess of the consuming capacity of the buying public. The mills are in good condition for immediate orders, but have little surplus of unfilled orders."

"The long-heralded foreign demand has dropped out of sight. Advances from France say that the canal slide and the lack of bottoms have delayed the placing of large orders. Prices are substantially higher than a year ago, but not yet high enough to keep up with the advancing cost of logs, supplies and other items of operating expense."

Among the supplies that have risen in price Mr. Ripley noted the following: Glass, 25 per cent higher; glue, 15 per cent; sandpaper, 12 1/2 per cent; nails, 40 per cent; files, 15 per cent; steel twine, 40 per cent; wire, 15 per cent; paper, 35 per cent; belting, 25 per cent; box strap, 20 per cent; corrugated fasteners, 20 per cent; lined oil, 40 per cent; and white lead, 25 per cent.

Everett Griggs, president of the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber Company, said the market and conditions in the state generally are very much on the mend.

"The car shortage at present is affecting somewhat the volume of business," said Mr. Griggs. "It is difficult to get cars, but I do not believe that the car shortage is affecting prices. There is a shortage in the stocks of the interior yards, but some are holding off with any new orders because of failure of delivery of their earlier ones. I do not think there is any question but the present prices will be maintained."

Foreign Trade Stopped.
"The foreign business is at a standstill because of the scarcity of tonnage. There is none available for immediate or future deliveries. Most of our lumber is shipped to the Eastern or California markets. There are some large foreign inquiries, but no one can quote, as the mills must furnish the bottoms, and there is none to spare. The rate to Australia is 155 shillings, as compared with 65 shillings a year ago."

"Some lumbermen regard it as regrettable that new mills are being built on the strength of the present improved conditions. I doubt, however, if there will be much of this. The last seven years have been severe punishment to many persons who rushed into the lumber business with rosy dreams before the slack period began."

That prices are about 20 per cent higher than a year ago, making it possible for mills to operate at a reasonable profit, was the view of E. C. Hill, of the Addison-Hill Company.

"Things are pretty well on the upgrade," said Mr. Hill. "We are well stocked up with orders. The plant is running night and day, and we are cutting considerable railroad material, such as car decking. Things are much better than they have been for some time."

CATHLAMET BACKS ROAD

Military Route from Vancouver to Fort Canby Is Urged.

CATHLAMET, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the Commercial Club of this place, resolutions were adopted endorsing the bill which is to be introduced in Congress by Representative Johnson for an appropriation for a military road from Vancouver to Fort Canby. Copies of the resolution will be sent to Washington and Oregon Senators and Representatives and to the commercial clubs of Portland and Astoria, and of all Southwestern Washington towns.

Every effort will be made to secure the passage of the bill, which would give a good road over the north bank of the Columbia from Vancouver to the sea. Besides this it will connect the two forts, an important factor in the protection of the Pacific Coast.

PIONEER AND VETERAN DIES

David H. McBride Succumbs at Age of 92 at Watsburg.

WATSBURG, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—David Headpath McBride, pioneer and veteran, passed away at the family home here Wednesday at the age of 92. He was born in Monroe County, Kentucky, September 24, 1824. In 1854 he married Miss Mary A. Evans. To this union there were born five children, three of whom, Thomas McBride, of Pomeroy, Wash.; Mrs. W. H. Smith, of Watsburg; and Mrs. M. H. Keiser, of Watsburg, survive him.

COVE PUPILS FORM CLUBS

Superintendent Visits School and Inspires Industrial Efforts.

COVE, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—Mrs. Ivanhoe, of La Grande, the Union County School Superintendent, accompanied by a lecturer and moving picture machine, surprised the Cove public school Wednesday with an unexpected visit in the interest of the Boys' and Girls' Industrial Club movement. All the grades and the high school were assembled in the auditorium, and a two-hour session was held to incite the young people to take an active interest in vegetable and flower culture and pure seeds, with special potato and sewing clubs.

Under Professor Allen's guidance work is already being planned which will enlarge and improve the district school fair next Fall.

MOUNT ANGEL WOMAN DIES

Mrs. Nicholas Mickel Succumbs at Age of 73 Years.

MOUNT ANGEL, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—Mrs. Nicholas Mickel, 73, died at her home here March 17 at the age of 73, surrounded by her family.

KENNEWICK DEBATERS WIN CENTRAL WASHINGTON CHAMPIONSHIP.

KENNEWICK, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—The Kennewick School debating team won the championship of the Central Washington district in the state interscholastic debates. It also took the district interscholastic championship last year and the championship of Benton County the previous year.

It is the first high school team that has won the district championship during the entire 10 years of interscholastic debates in this state. The success of the team is due largely to the coaching of Professor M. S. Lewis.

Three general groups are recognized in the organization of industrial clubs. Special clubs are organized where five or more boys and girls are interested in one line of work; industrial clubs are formed where there is a sufficient number of young people interested in a special line and where individuals wish to follow a special line of work. A boy or girl may enroll for any club project as the single representative in that particular locality.

Whenever possible the clubs are organized in co-operation with the public school officials. When this cannot be done such organizations as the Grange, Farmers' Union, Parent-Teacher Association and Commercial Clubs often cooperate.

After the clubs are organized local leaders, interested in the work among the following children: Mrs. E. F. Moore, Portland; Mrs. R. P. Walsh, Ketchikan, Alaska; N. G. Mickel, Mount Angel; and Miss Margaret Mickel, Seattle.

She is survived by her husband and the following children: Mrs. E. F. Moore, Portland; Mrs. R. P. Walsh, Ketchikan, Alaska; N. G. Mickel, Mount Angel; and Miss Margaret Mickel, Seattle.

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CORNELIUS WOMAN PASSES

Mrs. Clarissy McNutt Crossed Plains to Oregon as Mere Child.

CORNELIUS, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—Mrs. Clarissy McNutt, who died at the home of her son in Portland last Monday, was buried in the Cornelius Cemetery Wednesday afternoon. Services were conducted at the Rev. J. G. Crozier.

Mrs. McNutt had been suffering for the past two years from paralysis and was almost helpless for the past few months. She was born in Missouri in 1853, and while still a small child came with her parents to Oregon. In 1882 she was united in marriage to Elmer McNutt, who died a little more than a year ago. She leaves two sons, Herbert and Lloyd McNutt, both of Portland. Mrs. McNutt was a member of the Methodist Church, having joined here in 1882.

WOODLAND PLANS ROAD

Commercial Club Elects and Votes to Work for Bridge.

WOODLAND, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—More than 40 members of the Woodland Commercial Club and some invited guests assembled in Oddfellows' Hall here Wednesday night for the annual election of officers and a meeting.

It was announced that another mile and a half of hard-surface road would be completed this year north of town, and it was also decided that public hitching sheds and public watering places are to be constructed at once, and that an effort would be made for a bridge across the Lewis River near Yale.

J. N. Pinnamond was elected president; E. E. Dale, vice-president; and R. E. McNeal, secretary.

Oddfellows Gather at Gresham.

GRESHAM, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—The degree team of Orient Lodge, Oddfellows, No. 17, was present at the regular meeting of Gresham Lodge, No. 125, and conferred the first degree on three candidates, Bert Hoss, Harry Erickson and Fred Powell, Thursday night. About 80 members of the Gresham Lodge were present and about 40 from Portland. Notables here were: Past Grand Masters Westbrook and Andrews. On behalf of the Gresham Lodge, Mr. Westbrook presented J. S. Griffin with the 30-year Jewel. An entertainment and banquet closed the evening.

Klamath Falls Students Rehearsing.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—The senior play of the local high school will be given here soon. Mr. Gregg, the science instructor, and the various parts have been assigned and practice has begun with great enthusiasm on the part of the students. Miss Marshall, English teacher, and Mr. Gregg, the science instructor, are coaching the members. The play chosen is "Fanny and the Servant Problem."

CLUB PLANS GIVEN

Eighteen Projects Listed for Boys' and Girls' Effort.

FEDERAL HELP PROVIDED

Courses Laid Out by Oregon Agricultural College and Anyone Between Ages of 9 and 18 Eligible to Membership.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, March 25.—(Special.)—Eighteen projects have been outlined for the Boys' and Girls' Industrial Club work for the coming year which is maintained and supervised by the extension division of the Oregon Agricultural College with the co-operation of the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Education. The organization of the work for the year will close April 15. H. C. Seymour, state leader of industrial club work; Leonard J. Allen, state pig club agent; and Miss Helen Cowgill, assistant state leader, are continually in the field completing

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COLUMBIA

SIXTH AND WASHINGTON

LAND TIE-UP FOUGHT

Grants Pass Commercial Club Protests Adding Reserves.

TAX PAYMENT IS URGED

Increased Prosperity and Development Are Foreseen With Opening of Oregon & California Grant Tracts in Josephine.

GRANTS PASS, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—The Commercial Club of Grants Pass, under the leadership of its public land grant committee has issued a letter to each of its members, as well as the public of Josephine County, calling for a protest to Congress against the passage of any legislation which would place any further lands in Federal reserve or deny to the county the accrued and unpaid taxes on railroad lands within its boundaries.

The citizens of Josephine County feel that if the Oregon & California grant lands be opened promptly to development it means great prosperity, otherwise and if Congress fails to make them subject to taxation and ignores the right of the county to the payment of accrued taxes, bankruptcy.

When Josephine County was first organized, the organization was elected on the basis of the land contained within its boundaries, which amounted to 1,120,640 acres. Since that time \$81,245 acres have been taken from the county's holdings, and put in the forest reserve, the income from the Government on this land being but a fraction of what it would have been under private ownership and development, and besides some 75,000 acres of Oregon & California lands are within the forest reserve and so withheld from taxation.

Indebtedness Is \$290,250.
The outstanding warrant indebtedness of Josephine County is \$290,250, nearly one-half of the same representing unpaid taxes on Oregon & California lands.

The unpaid taxes on Oregon & California lands are 1913, \$33,908; 1914, \$37,540; 1915, \$33,993 or a total of \$105,441 on 189,173 acres of a valuation of \$1,651,680, approximately \$5.73 per acre. This sum in addition to penalty and interest amounting to several thousand dollars, should all be paid to the county for interest is being paid on warrants issued on account of said delinquent taxes at the rate of 5 per cent, and the county is compelled to suffer a discount of 5 per cent on the said warrants to dispose of them.

The taxable lands of the county have been 469,150 acres, and with the Oregon & California lands withdrawn, amounting to 189,173 acres, it only leaves



289,172 acres in the county to bear the burden of taxation out of a total acreage of 1,120,673 acres.

Prices Proposed by Bill.
No objection is found to the designation of the lands as "agricultural, mineral and timber," as provided by Senate bill 30 with prices according to each characterization, but the citizens of this county do vigorously protest against a classification before entry, as this would make a checker-board of small reserves in the very heart of developed lands and would tie up in hopeless red tape the actual private development of privately owned lands when roads, ditches and other rights of way are necessary for the development of adjoining lands.

The people of this county feel that there should be no arbitrary amount of timber to prevent entry as agricultural land, but that the settler should be compelled to pay for any excess of 250,000 feet per 40-acre tract, and the classification appraisement made as is now done under the "Carefully ordered."

Timber Sales Protested.
Strong protest is made against the sale of timber separate from the land to speculators to hold at the discretion of their heirs and assigns as this course would effectively prevent mining, even though the land was open to prospecting, and this feature alone would seriously jeopardize the future of this section of the state.

The final division of the sales is not of so vital importance to Josephine County as might be expected, since when at the end we deduct from our share the \$2.50 per acre for 189,173 acres paid to the railroad and repay to the Government the \$105,481 and deduct for accrued taxes, taking into consideration the large acreage of high waste land that will never sell at any price, Josephine County will be in the position of the boy who announced his smaller companion that "there ain't no goin' to be no core" to divide.

If the forest service is allowed to take any of the land and only timber is allowed to be sold on other portions when the deal is closed Josephine County will be actually in debt to the Government.

STUDENTS REJECT HONOR SYSTEM.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, March 25.—(Special.)—The student body of the Oregon Agricultural College this week voted not to adopt the honor system of conducting classroom work after a campaign of several weeks waged between factions of students. In place of the proposed system, which called for much legislation unfavorably viewed by the major-

POMEROY BALL TEAM ORGANIZED.

POMEROY, Wash., March 25.—(Special.)—The Pomeroy ball fans met yesterday and elected B. Y. Rainey baseball manager and Dr. Myron Thompson secretary-treasurer. Five men who played on last year's undefeated team are on the squad. Six games with teams of nearby towns have been scheduled. Dr. J. C. Thompson, an old league player and Washington State College star, will coach the team again this year.

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PENDLETON EXPENSES CUT

Cost of Running City in 1915 Less by \$2000 Than for 1914.

PENDLETON, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—Expenses of the city administration of Pendleton last year were \$2000 less than those of the previous year, according to a report of Councilman E. J. Murphy, of the finance committee. For this year Mr. Murphy contemplates a saving of \$2700. The greatest reduction of expense is in the police department. The total expense for that department last year was \$6839.44, of which \$1250 was paid in salaries to the four members of the force.

Mr. Murphy believes that the remaining expenditures for incidentals might be cut at least \$1000.

"C. C. C. C. C." Is Lodge Chief.

ALBANY, Or., March 25.—(Special.)—Five "C's" in a row would appear as a strange notation on a lodge document, and the uninitiated might think it a cabalistic sign, but in the lodge of the Knights of Pythias at the

Open 10:30 A. M. to 11 P. M.

MARtha's VINDICATION

A Great Pulsating and Throbbing 5-Act Modern Drama—A Story of False Accusation—Sweeping to a Climax That Will Make You Gasps, Featuring Filmland's Most Charming and Enthusiastic Stars,

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