Irrigation Congress Opens in Portland January 4 and Problems Are Scheduled.

EXPERTS ARE TO SPEAK

Particular Difficulty of Each Section Is to Be Worked Out and Laws to Correct Defects Are Considered at Session.

A majority of members of the Legis-lature are to be present at the Oregon Irrigation Congress when it opens at the Imperial Hotel, January 4, and many important matters will be dis-cussed directly affecting irrigation. The members of the Legislature will be here primarily to study the irriga-tion situation and to learn from the Congress its recommendations for irrigation laws; but the meeting will also afford the possibility of preliminary "feeling out" on innumerable other subjects before the Legislature which will convene a few weeks later at

Every irrigation section in Oregon will be represented by speakers and by delegations interested in particular

by delegations interested in particular problems of irrigation. Prominent Federal officials and representatives from Washington, Idaho and other states will be also represented.

The annual election of officers will be held Saturday afternoon, January 6, at which time also the resolution committee will report.

The annual banquet will be held at the Chamber of Commerce Saturday night, with O. M. Clark presiding and C. C. Chapman toastmaster.

The programme as revised up to date by acceptances of new speakers, follows:

Thursday Night,

Main subject, "Federal Aid."
8:00—Report of committee appointed by
the Fifth Annual irrigation Congress to
promote enactment of the Jones Federal
aid bill by the Congress of the United
States, O. Laurgaard, chairman,
Address, Rebert E. Strahorn, developer of
Central Oregon,
Address, Dr. Elwood Mead, University of
California.

Friday Morning. Friday Morning.

Main subject, "State Legislation for Irri-

Friday Afternoo

Main subject, "Needs of Oregon Irrigation rojects."
1:30—Call to order,
Report of the secretary, F. N. Wallace

Report of the secretary, F. N. Wallace, Tumaio.

Dr. Hector Macpherson, Oregon Agricultural College, "Application of Oregon State Rural Credits Bonds Amendment to Irrigation Development."

Address, Dr. C. J. Smith, Portland, "Application of Pederal Rural Credits Law to Irrigation in Oregon."

Address, T. B. Kay, State Treasurer, and chairman State Land Board in Relation to the State Rural Credits Law."

"Trigation Tredits Law."

"Irrigation Progress in Upper Deschutes."

J. E. Morsen, Portland.
"Trrigation Progress in Crook County."
Roscoe Howard, Deschutes.
"Irrigation Progress in Union County."

C. B. McConnell, Burns,
"Trrigation Progress in Union County."

(speaker not named).

"Irrigation Progress in Columbia River Counties." Dr. J. E. Anderson, Mayor of The Dalles,

Friday Night. Counties," D

Friday Night, Main subject. "Financing of Irrigation 8:00—Call to order.
Address, Rawles Moore, Medford, "Attitude of Eastern Investors Toward Irrigation Bends."

Address, John A. Keating, president Lun

bermen's Trust Company Portland, "Att tude of Investors Toward Irrigation Bonds. Saturday Morning. Main subject, "Co-operation With Federal Departments to Assist Oregon Irrigation De-

opment." 9:00—Call to order. Address, E. F. Benson, president Washingington Irrigation Institute,
Forter J. Neff, Medford.
W. Lair Thompson, Lakeview, chairman
legislative committee Oregon Irrigation Con-

John Lewis, State Engineer, Salem. Address, Arthur Hooker, secretary Na-tional Irrigation Congress, El Paso, Texas.

Saturday Afternoon,

1:30—Call to order,
Address, C. L. Smith, agriculturist, O.-W.
R. & N. Co., "The Use and Misuse of Report of committee on resolutions. Election of officers.

Adojurnment. Saturday, Night.

Banquet, Portland Chamber of Commerce,
M. Clark, president; C. C. Chapman

Following are the members of the 1917 Legislature who have accepted the invitation to the Oregon Irrigation Congress and will attend one or more

tonatmaster.

sessions of same,
George T. Baldwin, Klamath Falls; C. A.
George T. Baldwin, Klamath Falls; C. A. George T. Baldwin, Klamath Falls; C. A. Barrett Athema; C. P. Bishop, Salem; S. D. Cusick, Albany; Robert S. Farrell, Portland; Samuel L. Gurland, Lebanon; John Gill, Portland; C. L. Hawley, McCoy; S. B. Huston, Portland; C. L. Hawley, McCoy; S. B. Huston, Portland; Hermon A. Lewis, Portland; Gus C. Moeer, Portland; Conrad P. Olson, Portland; A. W. Orton, Portland; M. D. Shanks, Concon; I. S. Smith, Marshfield; Frederick Stelwer, Pendleton; W. T. Vinton, McMinnyille; George R. Wilbur, Hood River; J. E. Anderson The Dalles; Ira C. Barber, Williamins; Louis E. Bean, Eugene; George C. Brownell, Oregon City; A. C. Callan, Portland; Hamilton F. Corbett, Portland; of the effect of the prohibition is effect of the prohibition has been for the common good.

"From my correspondence with the state during the prohibition exists, I believe that the prohibition is existence than in our own.

"I have been in many of the country of the country of the effect of the prohibition law has not been better enforced in any state during the first year of its existence than in our own.

"I have been in many of the country of the country of the effect of the prohibition law is a control of the effect of the prohibition law has not been better enforced in any state during the prohibition law has not been better enforced in any state during the first year of its existence than in our own.

"I have been in many of the country of the country of the effect of the prohibition law has not been better enforced in any state during the prohibition law has not been better enforced in any state during the prohibition law has not been better enforced in any state during the prohibition law has not been better than the prohibition law has not been better of the prohibition law in th

OFFICERS AND LEADERS IN OREGON IRRIGATION CONGRESS, WHICH OPENS SESSIONS HERE THIS · WEEK.





C.C. Chopman



Fred N. Wallace

J.W. Brower

More Than \$6,000,000 Spent in Oregon in 1916.

O.-W. R. & N. WORK LEADS

Extension of Railroad Branches, Electrification, New Stops, Shortening of Line and Other Improvements Included.

More than \$5,00,000 was expended by the Various railroad systems in Gregory 1 law, under which it is unlawful for any person to import, ship, sell, transport, and; O. M. Clark, president, on behalf of the city of Porticand, O. M. Clark, president, on behalf of the partial chamber of Commuseloner, on behalf of the partial chamber of Commuseloner, on behalf of the Portland Chamber of Commuseloner, on behalf of the city of Porticand Chamber of Commuseloner, on behalf of the city of Portland Chamber of Commuseloner, on the partial port, selliver, receive, or have in his possession any intoxicating liquors, except any person to import, ship, sell, transported the complete the construction work of the partial construction work o More than \$6,000,000 was expended by

Coos Bay Line Completed.

tion of the Coos Bay line. The branch extends from Eugene to Marshfield, a distance of 121 miles. The entire cost of the line was \$10.880,000, of which the expenditures during the past year amounted to about \$1,000,000.

On the operated lines of the Portland

ation Districts."

9:00—Call to order.

Address, L. M. Rice, Seattle.

Address, Judge Carroll B. Graves, Seatle, "Development of Irrigation Laws."

Address, Percy A. Cupper, Salom, "Irriation Development in Oregon, Under the
Drigon District Law."

J. T. Hinkle, Hermiston,
William F. King, Prineville, "Success of
the Ochoco District Bond Issue."

M. Dearmond, Bend.

Dridgy Afternoon.

On the operated lines of
division approximately is
spent for additions and
The most important wo
electrification of the line
son to Corvallis. Work
vanced and it is expected
will be operating between
Corvallis by April 1.

When completed, will cost
by \$425,000. division approximately \$800,000 was spent for additions and betterments. The most important work was the The most important work in the line from White-son to Corvallis. Work is well ad-vanced and it is expected electric cars when completed, will cost approximately \$425,000.

The company also spent a considerable amount in general betterments on its Portland division.
The list of betterment enterprises on

the North Bank, Oregon Electric, Oregon Trunk and United Ballways lines for the year will total approximately Tunnels and bridges constitute the chief items.

Freight Stations Improved. Probably the most interesting fea-tures of the new work completed in the Willamette Valley were the large number of additions and improvements to freight stations, industrial spur tracks, loading platforms, new ware-houses, livestock pens, loading chutes, etc. The extent of the work done in-

dicated a satisfactory gain in general agricultural and commercial conditions over the previous year.

A considerable volume of traffic moved from valley points to market. The demand from the farming communities for facilities for handling products for market indicated that the producing sections were experiencing

prosperity.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL BROWN SAYS SOME VIOLATIONS EXPECTED.

Officials From Other States Say Oregon Has Been Successful in Administration of Law.

The prohibition law has been benefi-cial and has been effectively administered in the opinion of George M. Brown, Attorney-General, Mr. Brown

will occur during the incoming year.

"The habits that a man has been forming during his lifetime are not enwill occur during the incoming year.

"The habits that a man has been forming during his lifetime are not entirely eradicated by the mere passage \$12,202 in 1916 and \$17,639 in 1915; jall, tirely eradicated by the mere passage \$12,202 in 1916 and \$15,696 in 1915; of a law. However, Oregon's prohibition law has been for the common good.

"From my correspondence with the \$37,624 for 1915 and \$42,674 for 1915; law enterching officers of other states."



# The principal work undertaken by the Southern Pacific was the comple-

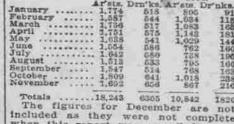
POLICE FIND CONDITIONS ARE IM-PROVED BY DRY REGIME,

responding records of the last "wet"

"From the police standpoint, prohibition has proved a good thing," said Chief of Police Clark, "Where there is no liquor sold there is always less crime, of course. In the past year the police have had decidedly less trouble. The greatest drawback to the present law is the sale of alcohol by druggists. If this could be regulated drukenness would lessen noticeably. The first year of prohibition has been successful, we believe and this extended. believe, and things will go even better from now on."

The totals of general arrests and for

drunkenness, by months, were as follows:



DRY COUNTY COSTS

Spokane Saves \$22,000 a Year Through Prohibition.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 30.—(Special.)—The coming of prohibition in the state of Washington is given as the direct cause for the saving of more than \$22,000 in the operating expenses of Spokane County.

Deputy County Auditor Skadan today totaled figures of expenses in of-Brown, Attorney-General. Mr. Brown made the following statement:

"At the close of Oregon's first year under prohibition, we assert that the law as a whole has been successfully administered throughout the state. That some violations have occurred during the year was to be expected, and we apprehend that other violations will occur during the incoming year.

"At the close of Oregon's first year year. They show that the greatest saving has been made in the operation of the County Infirmary, more than \$10,000 being cut from the rundaring the year was to be expected, and we apprehend that other violations will occur during the incoming year.

tion:

Seal pups born on the Pribliof Islands were more numerous by 10,450 this year than last year.

"When the Anderson law was enacted outside of its alcoholic provision it was today to Morris Wilbur Hedden and to John Bruncev, Hoquiam, and year than last year.

When the Anderson law was enacted outside of its alcoholic provision it was today to Morris Wilbur Hedden and last year.

Within a few days thereafter, Fannie K. Ross, Gig Harbor, Wash.

Increase of Time Deposits in Oregon Banks \$7,000,000.

ACCOUNTS HEAVIER

Compilation Made by Superintendent Sargent Gives Total of All Deposits as \$84,959,461. \$68,758,802 One Year Ago.

fied as savings deposits, as they represent virtually the same class of bank patrons—persons of small means who want to put their money in a safe place where it will draw interest.

Time deposits in the Portland banks alone aggregated \$6,536,543.62 on November 17, 1916, and \$5,052,788.64 on November 10, 1915, an increase of \$483,754.98; savings deposits were \$18,730,069.81 and \$16,574,830.91, respectively—an increase of \$2,155,238.99.

were \$35,896,746.04 and \$33,425,725.78, an increase of \$2,471,010.26. These figures represent the active checking accounts which are used in transacting the everyday business of the com-munity. The Portland banks, moreover, show an increase of more than \$11,-250,000 in the deposits carried with them by other banks in various parts of the Northwest.

## DRY LAW HELD BENEFIT

DISTRICT ATTORNEY EVANS GIVES VIEWS ON PROHIBITION.

Multnomah County Prosecutor Sees Betterment of Social and Crim-Inal Conditions Here,

bition in Portland and Multnomah County has produced a marked effect upon the community, both in reducing the amount of crime and in the better-Totals ......18,243 6305 10,842 1820 upon the community, both in reducing the figures for December are not included as they were not complete ment of social conditions," says Walter to the community of the amount of crime and in the betterment of social conditions," says Walter to the community of the community

mpiete ment of social conditions," says Walter
H. Evans, District Attorney.
"Only a few days ago the Sheriff of
LESS this county reported that in 1915 he
held 406 vagrants and in 1916 only 32;
that he had had in the county fall 1500
prisoners against 2500 in 1915, and
\$200 in 1914, and only 31 non-support
cases compared with 91 in the preceding year. ng year.

Similar ratios are maintained in the figures in this office. In the months from January to August, Inclusive, in 1915, an aggregate of 197 defendants were bound over to the grand lury from the Municipal Court. In the same months of this year \$5 were bound over. That this is not due to any change of policy upon the part of the prose-Municipal Court during the first period was 365; and during the second period 158. In the first period there were convicted on misdemeanor charges 1339 persons, and in the second period 283.

"There is no question that orime has been cut almost or not and with equal emphasis that it would be just as life to say that prohibition has hurt their business.

Business Men Change Opinions.

Many business men who "There is no question that offme has been cut almost in half since prohibi-tion went into effect. "Much of the work of the District

Attorney's office during the present year has been in the prevention and punishment of violations of the prohibition law. The amount of cash pen-allies collected from offenders of this afties collected from offenders of this class has been sufficient to finance the cost of prosecutins. Each day further fortifies the authorities in their efforts affles collected from offenders of this class has been sufficient to finance the insists that prohibition actually has been sufficient to finance the insists that prohibition actually has helped him. Men are buying better fortifies the authorities in their efforts to reduce the amount of this business. "Since the saloon has been abolished there has been a marked exodus of criminal classes. I am informed that fully 50 per cent of the professionally immoral women have migrated.

"The worst evil that we had to contend with during the year was the alcohol business and this, while bad stores. The department stores and perhaps, why the people of the state.

end with during the year was the al-cohol business and this, while bad mough, has in fact been confined to a nparatively small coterie of coned drunkards.

"That the abolition of the saloon has seen accomplished in Portland without injurious effects to the business fabric and with marked results upon the moral and law-abiding character of the community, is a thing which I seldom now find anyone disposed to deny."

EMPLOYERS LIKE DRY ERA

Investigation Brings Assertion That in Some Lines of Business Efficiency of Workers Has Increased Fully 25 Per Cent.

(Continued From Page 14.)

"dry" law.

A whole lot of beer also was brought into the state in the old days, but this expenditure is offset in part at least by the operation of a number of breweries that made shipments out of the

The fact that money is being sent out of the state under the present law was the professed inspiration for the campaign started here last Fall to secampaign started here last Pain to se-cure an amendment to the constitution permitting the brewerles to operate. People refused to be influenced by this appeal, for they defeated the brewery bill with a majority of 58,000. At the same time they adopted the "bone dry" amendment making it illegal to import

brewers and ex-bartenders have been hurt. Also the ice dealers—or some of them, at least, have suffered. The saloons were heavy purchasers of ice Contrary to expectations, the laundry business has not suffered. Those laundries that did a heavy business in Breweries Make Legan Juice.

Breweries Make Legan Juice.

Loganberry juice factories are companied to punish the "dry" comber receipts will total about \$152,-600.

The postoffice business in 1915 was \$1,167,293.03—about \$48,000 less than this year. This difference represents an actual gain of 5 per cent for the year.

Steady Gain Indicated.

The receipts will total about \$152,-600.

The postoffice business in 1915 was \$1,167,293.03—about \$48,000 less than this year. This difference represents an actual gain of 5 per cent for the year.

Steady Gain Indicated. and supplying towels and other linens to barrooms suffered for the first few months. But they made that up, by branching out into the domestic trade. branching out into the domestic trade.

As a whole the laundries of Portland did more business in 1916 than they did in 1915. A canvass of their books shows an increase of about 5 per cent.

All lines of legitimate merchandising has improved. This seems to be particularly true of jewelry stores. Men who formerly spent their money for drinks now are buying jewelry.

Jeweler's Business Grows.

One jeweler only a block from the

One jeweler only a block from the waterfront opposed prohibition vigorously in 1914. Within a block of his store were seven saloons. When the state went "dry" he tried to sell out. store were seven saloons. When the state went "dry" he tried to sell out. He couldn't. An ironical turn of fate placed jewelry stores in two of the rooms vacated by the saloons. Then he tried to close out. In the process he found his business growing, Now he is doing 20 per cent more business than a year ago. He has an analytical turn of mind and accounts for the improvement in this way:

sale of Alcohol by Druggists Is Only betterments. Ork was the from White- is well addedline and electric cars in Portland and This project, trapproximate- it approximate- in frequency, and the routine duties of the police were correspondingly of the police were corresponded to the police were correspondingly of the police were correspondingly of the police were corresponded to the police were correspondingly of the police were correspondingly of the police were corresponded to the police were corresponded to the police were than \$23,455,255,78 the police were corresponded to the police where the corresponding to the police were corresponded to the police were corresponded to the police was all abovers and laborers who were all abovers and laborers and laborers and laborers an something they never did before. This jeweler declares that several of the very men to whom he sold \$1 watches

Shoe stores also report an improve

ment-particularly those in that part of the West Side east of Third street. Naturally this is due partly to the industrial revival of the last few months. Most of the men who patronize stores in that part of town are employed now and have more money to buy shoes. More Children's Shoes Sold.

Much has been said by the prohibi-tion champions about the increased sale of children's shoes, as if men heretofore bought whisky in prefer-ence to footwear for the little ones. While the figures on this particular subject are in no way startling, shoe "From the viewpoint of a prosecuting officer a year of appreximate prohibition in Portland and Multnomah County has produced a marked effect merly went over the bar or not

The assertion that children are bet-er shod this year is corroborated by the school authorities. shoes makes them better able to at-tend school on wet and on cold days. That is one reason, probably, why the average attendance in the schools is better now than it was a year ago. I. R. Alderman, Superintendent of Schools

declares positively that prohibition is responsible for this improvement. The big specialty stores and the big department stores have noticed no effects from prohibition one way or the other. They are unanimous in the assertion that it has not hurt their business. All of them are doing more

This is particularly true of the smaller stores. The department stores and the big specialty stores have their credit departments better organized and seidom hazard heavy losses. But the suburban grocery and the struggling retailer in the main business district are forced to take long chances. While prohibition has by no means eliminated the "dead beat," they say that their losses are lighter.

The big wholesale houses in Port-

DRY OREGON GROWS

land say that their collections from country merchants are better this year than last and attribute no small part of the improvement to prohibition.

The passing of the saloon has left no abnormal number of vacant store rooms. In the main business district all but three or four of the rooms formerly occupied by saloons now are filled by legitimate lines of business. In the outlying sections the vacant saloon rooms are more numerous.

More than 75 per cent of the old saloon locations were snapped up by other business men within a month after the saloons went out of business.

As a rule the present occupants are not

after the saloons went out of business. As a rule the present occupants are not paying as much rent as the saloons paid. Real estate men say that the saloons were paying more than the value of property justified. In fact some properties were valued on the ability of a saloon tenant to pay a high rent. The elimination of the saloon has brought these rents down to a normal basis. These reductions have had an influence, too, on other rents on nearly all except the principal streets where traffic is heaviest.

One Landford Injured.

Landlords who own property in the North End, where the barrooms once all the liquor of that kind consumed in the state in the "wet" days had to be bought outside the state and money had to be sent out to buy it.

No one with any information on the subject whatever is willing even to approximate a guess how much money went out of Multnomah County every year for wine, whisky and other hard drinks. Some say it was \$5,000,000. Others say it was higher. Anyway, it was many times more than the amount sent out this year under the amount sent out this year under the line of the state. Oregon is one of the heaviest hop-producing districts in the country. Hops are used in making beer. Most Hops are used in making beer. Most of the Oregon hops, however, are exported for use in England, Germany and other beer-consuming countries. The war hurt this trade even before prohibition affected it. At present there is an embargo on hops. None can be exported. The surplus stock re-mains on the growers' hands. Consequently the market is bearish.

War Hurts Hop Business It is the war, as well as prohibition, that has hurt the hop business in Ore-

At the gon this year, But hopgrowers as well as browers see the handwriting on the wall and amendment making it illegal to import liquor with a majority of more than 5000. Every county in the state went against the brewery bill.

The recent investigation led into almost every avenue of trade, for the purpose of learning just how business had been affected.

Reports Are Optimistic.

Reports Are Optimistic.

With the exception of those lines dependent directly or partly on the sation business for their business, not a single merchant reported that prohibition had hurt him.

Obviously the ex-salconmen, the exbrewers and ex-bartenders have been some argument that brewers are close figurers. A difference of even a fraction of a countries will drive them into a "dry" state for their hops. All other conditions being equal, it is probable to gazged fairly accurately by comparisons with previous years. The December receipts will total about \$152,-600.

Coincident with the decline in the

Loganberry juice factories are com-ing into being in various parts of what formerly was the principal hop terri-tory—the Willamette Valley. Some of the ex-breweries have been transformed

the hop industry is on a precarious foundation. The loganberry industry is subject to no such hazards.

Few Breweries Are Idle. Few of the old breweries are idle. despite prohibition. One or more are making loganberry julce. Several are making soft drinks. Another is to be converted into a condensed milk A few, however, are no

There is one other economic element that needs to be considered in passing on the prohibition situation. That is the tourist traffic.

One stock argument of the "wet" One stock argument of the "wet" forces before the state went "dry" was a year ago came in this year and paid \$25 or \$30 for watches.

Motion picture theaters, vaudeville theaters and all public amusement houses are doing more business than portiand or any other not avoided ever.

They have not avoided Washington, which also is "dry."

The railroad records show that more tourists visited Portland last year than any year with the exception of 1905, when the Lewis and Clark Fair was in Portland: 1909, when the Alaska-Vukon Portland: 1909, when the Alaska-Yukon Fair was in Seattle and 1915 when

Saloonless City Lures Tourists. Prohibition Portland has attracted more tourists than Portland with its saloons ever did in a normal year. All first-class hotels report better business this year than in any normal year before the saloons were wiped

Naturally those hotels that made a heavy profit from their bars are suf-fering just that much loss. But their other departments continue to make money. Some of them are absorbing the losses due to the elimination of the bar by the increased business in Having better their rooms and restaurants.

Employers Approve Dry Regime The growth of the prohibition move-ment has made it necessary for all ho-tels to organize their business independent of their liquor sales. No good department store will permit its shoe department, for instance, to carry the losses of its dressgoods or its furniture departments. Every department must stand on its own bottom and make money. Hotelmen say there is no reason why a hotel should depend ally, while shipments are still less than on its sales to carry along the rest production.

sertion that it has not hurt their business. All of them are doing more business now than a year ago. They don't know whether the absence of salons has helped in this or not and don't pretend to say so, but they insist with equal emphasis that it would be just as idle to say that prohibition has hurt their business.

Business Men Change Opinions.

Many business men who voted against prohibition in 1214 fearing that it would hurt their business now confess that they would vote against the saloons if, by any chance, the question

At the recent convention of the Pa-

saloons if, by any chance, the question should come up again.

A prominent merchant tailor who worked hard against prohibition two devoted to a discussion of "The Benyears ago now asserts that he would effts of prohibition." The reports o work just as hard the other way. He more than a score of owners and op

## FRADE MAKES GAINS

Bank Clearances Increased \$95,329,385 Over 1915.

## POSTOFFICE YEAR IS BIG

Building Permits, for First Time in Five Years, Show Increase, and Important Projects Considered for New Year.

(Continued From First Page.) a new high level in the city's financial

## operations. Clearances Gain 895,329,385,

over last year. The previous high water mark in Portland banking business was in 1913, when clearings totaled \$627,818,010, or \$21,955,131 less than this year's clearances. they were \$578,884,018, and in 1915 they Were \$554,446,756.

lows: January \$ 43,261,038

Total .....\$554,446,756 \$649,775,14

Postoffice Business Grows, One institution that always is taken

\*Estimated. One of the notable features of the

Portland postoffice business is steadily increasing volume of the postal sav-ings bank. There are now 7544 deposit-ors, with \$1,342,331 to their credit. The gain in deposits over last year was \$294,178. The Portland postal savings bank now ranks seventh in the United States Building Makes Advance. For the first time in five years the

\$1,216,517,24

culiding permits in Portland showed a gain over the permits of the previous rear. The aggregate value of permits or 1916 was \$5,049,143, compared with 34.895.345 for 1915—a gain of \$1.152.800, or, approximately, 25 per cent.

There are under consideration several important building projects and it is probable that active work on some of them will be started soon. With general improvement in business it is ex-pected that there will be considerable

building activity in 1917. Statistics covering building permits in Portland the past 10 years are as follows:

0,049,145

Lumber Shipments Below Normal. Oregon's lumber cut for the year reached about the same total as in 1915, which was approximately 1,760;000,000 was in Seattle, and 1915, when feet. Lack of tonnage, due to the war, Panama-Pacific Fair was in San has struck a serious blow to the industry, and, as far as the Columbia River district is concerned, the exportation of lumber for the past two years has been exceedingly below normal. Domestic shipments have suffered simi-

Movement of lumber by rail also was seriously affected the latter half of the year on account of the continued car shortage. In several cases interior mills were forced to suspend operations for considerable periods because of the inability of the railroads to supply cars. For this reason many supply cars. For this reason many mills were obliged to cancel their or-ders and the loss of business was marked.

The seriousness of the transportation situation began to be felt six months ago. Since then the mills gradually have curtailed production,

## brisk throughout the year. All in all, the 1917 promises to be a much bet was year for the lumbermen than 1916. Cereal Demand Is Heavy.

On account of the scarcity of tonnage, Portland's export trade was ex-ceedingly light. The demand in Eu-rope for foodstuffs was so great, however, that the average quantity of cereal products from Portland's ter-ritory went abroad via rail to New York and other Atlantic shipping There were 22 vessels dispatched

from Portland during 1916 with wheat, barley and flour cargoes. These vessels cleared in the early part of the year, but since that time there have been ships available, and exporters itent to ship by rail to Atlanti

The wheat exports for the year to-taled 1,698,463 bushels, valued at \$1,962,964, and flour exports were \$5,993 barrels, valued at \$387,146. The exportation of lumber amount 22,341,718 feet, valued at \$235,679,

Clearings this year aggregated \$649,-775,141.36, an increase of \$95,329,385 Bank clearings covering the past two ears, month by month, were as fol-