

# Coos Bay Times

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COOS BAY DAILY TIMES  
Marshfield Oregon

## COOS BAY'S WORK OF GENIUS.

Another column contains a detailed description of the famous saw mill of the C. A. Smith Lumber and Manufacturing Company. It is really doubtful if the people of Marshfield or indeed of Coos Bay, realize the immense significance of this mill, and their own great good fortune in having it located among them. It is a distinction which in itself should be sufficient to make Coos Bay famous, even if this remarkable region had not several other extraordinary features. The C. A. Smith saw mill, as it is familiarly called, is in fact the most complete piece of mechanism of its kind in the world. Marshfield people would do well to ponder on this statement, for it is one which any other city would appreciate as an advertising asset which could not be overrated. Paris, New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco and all the rest of the famous cities, when they have an exceptional and unusual institution exclusively their own, let the world sleep until it knows all about it. Paris founded its Eiffel tower; New York proclaims her statue of Liberty; Chicago had the Ferris wheel; Boston never ceased to put Bunker Hill monuments in literature, and San Francisco never ceased talking of the Palace hotel until the fire made a wreck of it. Yet Marshfield has in the C. A. Smith mill a more remarkable, useful and interesting feature than any other city.

The C. A. Smith mill, located at the mouth of Isthmus Inlet, comes nearer being an automaton in the manufacture of lumber than any other mill in the United States, not excepting the Smith mill of Minneapolis, which, before this one was completed was entitled to that distinction. The truth is that the Minneapolis plant, although larger, has been the school of its owner and his expert mechanic, in which they were educated to that conception which they have developed and placed in material form on the Pacific coast and in this city. This mill is the marvel and the mystery of all who see it, and is looked upon by saw mill men who understand it as a sensation and a revolution in the manufacture of lumber. It is the closest approach to perfection of any like concern on the round earth. It is the most effective labor-saving aggregation of devices ever put into operation on wood. Yet it is an economic necessity, for it has arrived when all the world begins to realize that the timber resources of all nations are nearing exhaustion, and when it is important to make every stick of timber count. This mill is located in the most beautiful of fields and in the forests whose virginity remains well nigh untouched. Not this year, nor next, nor yet the following, will its superior be installed, but when the lumber of the coast moves in a vast stream through the Panama canal to eastern and European markets, the exceeding wisdom of the greatest of all the world's economists among lumber kings will be justified, both in his ingenious mill and his judicious location of it.

The Coos Bay country has mighty forests of spruce and pine—over fifty billion feet of timber—and there is in southwestern Oregon ten per cent of the uncut timber of the United States. The giant fir two hundred feet in height and frequently twelve feet in diameter will not be wasted in the future as in the past. The giant log which floats to the Smith mill will pass with but slight touch of the human hand, and be caught up in the mazes of its mechanism and, as it moves to its fate, each useful strip, plank, beam, spar and silver will go as if instinctive with life and possessed with intelligence to its own proper place. It is probable that this one mill will employ in its operation more than its logging work about 800 men. It is more than probable that the saw and door factory and other manufacturing auxiliaries which the Smith company will interest others in installing will employ a thousand more men. When one sees what the Simpson mills at North Bend have done for that city, it is not hard to understand what the Smith mill means. But Marshfield should not fail to realize that she has the distinction of being the home of the most complete saw mill in the world, and that the eyes of all the saw mill men on the coast, not to say the United States, are upon her. Let her be proud, and let her not "hide her light under a bushel."

# C. A. SMITH MILL

(Continued from page 1.)

the form of three immense steam drums and receivers for the purpose of carrying what might be termed the surplus steam. Two of these drums in the boiler room are 36 inches in diameter and 24 feet long. The other is in the engine room. These drums are for the purpose of obviating vibration in the shafting and machinery caused by the varying demands made on the power as the many machines are in operation or temporarily shut down.

The engine room, 47½ feet long by 37½ feet wide, contains two 800 horse power Corliss engines running independently and belted direct out to the main shaft with 48-inch, 3-ply leather belts.

Here also is located a 75-kilowatt dynamo that supplies the entire plant with its own electric lights. In the main mill on both floors these lights are neatly arranged in long reflectors.

### The Sorting Shed.

The sorting shed is 402 feet long by 68 feet wide. An overhead sorter has been installed, the first on the Pacific coast. This consists of an overhead runway, with openings of the various board lengths. On this runway the lumber travels on chains until it reaches an aperture corresponding with its length and drops through to a platform below. Here a grader stands and marks the lumber, which is loaded on small cars running on steel tracks which carry it to the yards to be piled and dried, or direct to the docks to be loaded on ships.

### Fire Protection.

The entire mill and plant is protected from fire by a carefully planned water system which includes an automatic sprinkling device with pipes running like spider webs to every nook and corner of the mill. These pipes are supplied with a water tank holding 50,000 gallons erected on a steel pyramid 95 feet from the ground and 25 feet above the highest point of the sprinkling system, thus giving it ample pressure at all times. This tank is supplied by two duplicate pumps, each with a capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute, one so arranged that it may be connected with a pipe leading to the bay, thus giving use of salt water in case of fire.

### Pumping Station.

The pump and oil house consists of a separate concrete building, 31 by 17 feet.

In addition to the fire protection system pumps there are also two duplicate pumps, each with a capacity of 900 gallons per minute, to supply the boilers from a fresh water reservoir.

### Machine Shop and Planing Mill.

The planing mill is 168 by 100 feet, equipped with eight planing machines, including band resaw and driven by a four hundred horse power Corliss engine, taking steam through a six inch pipe from the saw mill boiler 600 feet distant.

The machine shop, when completed, will be 64 feet by 176 feet. It will be equipped to handle any work or machinery which may be required in the saw mill and keeping it in repair. Railway locomotives and logging engine equipments are also provided for in this department.

### Office Building.

In its office building and appurtenances the C. A. Smith Lumber & Manufacturing Co. gives evidence of the embodiment of the new idea in modern industries. This building is a substantial and beautiful structure 84 feet long by 44 feet wide and three stories high, with full basement.

The front room on the first floor is occupied by the accounting department and bookkeepers. A bit of artistic elegance that lends a touch of beauty to prosaic business life, is an immense open fire place with mantel on the south side of the room. Back of this is the private office of Vice-President and Manager J. E. Oren. Back of this the office of General Superintendent Arno Meezen. The remainder of the first floor is occupied with offices and a large steel and concrete vault that is started in the basement and continues to the second floor.

On the second floor is the dining room and kitchen included in the general term of the commissary department. Here all the members of the executive staff and office force are furnished excellent meals. On his floor are also a number of sleeping rooms, including the private apartments for President C. A. Smith and members of his family, consisting of parlor and two bedrooms and provided with a private bath. There is also a guest chamber and a separate bath room for the other occupants.

President Smith's apartments are finished throughout in the beautiful Myrtle wood from Coos county forests and adds to them an air of elegance that is most attractive.

On this floor there is also the pub-

lic parlor, library and reading room. This room is large, bright and cheerful and with comfortable chairs that invite to ease and rest give it the air of a private club.

On the next floor is the billiard room provided with billiard and pool tables for the employees, the drafting room for architects and mechanical engineers, and additional sleeping apartments.

In the basement is a fine bowling alley provided with two regulation alleys in which a game may be played at any time, and one is usually in progress after office hours.

Everywhere in this great manufacturing institution there is evidence of careful planning and assiduous attention to economic handling of material and labor in the various processes through which logs pass in their evolution to the finished product. This is meant merely as descriptive of the mill without touching on the economic methods which such a mill will make possible. In this feature it is a more than valuable acquisition to the manufacturing industries of Coos Bay. As a model mill of its kind it will herald the tidings of Coos Bay to many sections.

More figures do not convey the eloquent story that their significance embodies. Some figures of the material used in the construction of the mill will aid in understanding the size and solidity of it. The foundation of the power plant alone weighs 700 tons and rests on piles driven to bed rock. In addition to the 5,000,000 feet of lumber, 3500 piles and great quantities of rock and cement enter into the construction of the plant. More than 100 car loads of material were brought from the east to Portland and thence by steamer to Coos Bay. Seven car loads of steel rails alone for trackage for the small cars about the mill have already been received. There is at present about 7½ miles of track built in and around the mill for the small lumber cars, everything being handled in this manner. When in complete operation there will be about 15 miles of track and 1000 cars for this single feature. There will be enough of these cars to hold a full cargo of lumber.

### The Construction.

The plant has been practically originated, designed and built within a year. The general plan was outlined by Mr. C. A. Smith and his General Superintendent Arno Meezen assisted by the following members of the executive force of the construction department.

- J. E. Stack, Master Mechanic.
- N. Roy, Assistant Master Mechanic.
- Roy Morrill, Scratcher.
- James Bennett, Chief Engineer.
- Draftsmen—B. B. Ostlund, H. M. Webber, E. Stack.
- C. H. Jenkins, Assistant Civil Engineer.

In finishing the work Superintendent A. Demangeon, and O. E. Gagnon, saw mill foreman in Minneapolis, have assisted since their arrival three months ago.

### Where Logs Come From.

The logs for the mill are being furnished by the Smith-Powers Logging Co., of which Mr. A. H. Powers is vice-president and general manager, and G. A. Brown, bookkeeper.

The names of the other members of the executive and office force of the C. A. Smith Lumber & Manufacturing Co. are given at the head of this article.

The opening of this mill marks a new epoch in the development of the latent resources of Coos Bay. That it will realize to the fullest extent the fond dreams of its builder Mr. C. A. Smith and the capable men who are aiding by their best efforts to make his dream possible and that it will long continue to be a prominent factor in the commercial and manufacturing world of the Pacific coast is the hearty, earnest and sincere wish of The Times and in this wish it but voices the wishes and hopes of this entire community.

### SATURDAY GUARANTEE SNAPS.

- 60x150 Front street property, with water front, \$8,500.
- 2 lots in East Marshfield, suitable 1 block on Sherman avenue, 200 feet square, \$2,200.00.
- 200 feet on Virginia street, North Bend, \$2,000.00.
- 150 feet on Sherman avenue, Porter Addition, \$1,000.00.
- Lots in Boise Addition, \$75.00 to \$100.00, easy terms.
- 117-acre Coos River ranch with 80 acres river bottom, well improved with house and barn, \$15,750; easy terms.
- 2 lots on Main and Hamilton streets, North Bend, 50x120 each, for \$600.00 for the two.
- 1 lot on Stanton adjoining Coos Bay Brewery Co., North Bend, \$750.

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John Preuss Vice President, R. T. Kaufman, Asst. Cashier

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