

INCREASE IN LUMBER TRADE

January Makes Good Showing In Shipments From This Port.

IT IS IN ALL 12,978,667 FEET

New Mills to Be Operated on the Columbia River Will Add to Strength of Lumber Fleet.

Some idea of the immense increase in the lumber trade of this port can be gained from the statement of the cargoes cleared here during the month of January. In all 21 vessels took on lumber at Columbia river ports, and the total lumber shipments for the month were 12,978,667 feet. Shipments of lath aggregated 95,150 pieces, being part of the cargo of the barkentine Emigh, which goes to Honolulu. With the exception of this cargo, that of the Ninfa, which is destined for Cape Town, South Africa, and that of the Forester, which goes to Kobe, all of the lumber went to California points.

The vessels clearing during the month of January with lumber and their cargoes follow:

Vessel	Feet.
Joseph Russ	350,000
Virginia	700,000
Francis H. Leggett	300,000
Salvador	504,831
Melrose	825,417
Glendale	370,000
R. W. Bartlett	655,078
Despatch	600,000
G. C. Lindauer	500,000
Aivena	897,924
Aurella	550,000
Prentiss	424,000
Volunteer	737,000
Viking	290,000
Laura Madson	475,000
Haydn Brown	557,000
Henry Wilson	550,000
Ninfa	1,455,000
Despatch	300,000
T. F. Emigh	1,179,496
Forester	852,921
Total	12,978,667

This is an excellent showing for the first month of the year, especially in view of the fact that the lumber market is at present very dull. No account is here taken of the large shipments of box shooks to California. On the whole, the month has been a gratifying one so far as lumber exports are concerned, and there is every reason to believe that the amount of business will steadily increase. If present indications are to be relied upon, there will shortly be several new mills along the Columbia, and their product will add to the numerical strength of the lumber carrying fleet.

Grain and Flour Exports.

Four blue water vessels cleared during the month for foreign ports with grain and flour. The total value of the exports, including 1000 cases of fruit, valued at \$2250, taken by the French bark Ancaios, was \$403,014. The following statements show the foreign exports of grain and flour:

Wheat—	Bushels.	Value.
Andorhina	182,461	\$142,318
East African	103,969	77,977
Chrystal	14,923	11,200
Totals	301,353	\$231,495
Barley—	Sacks.	Value.
Chrystal	43,280	\$ 53,988
Flour—	Barrels.	Value.
Ancaios	32,023	\$115,281

According to reliable reports, some of the leading farmers of the wheat districts are in a combination to force up prices, and are holding their grain. This circumstance adds to the difficulties of ship owners and keeps down the number of grain carriers arriving. Prices are now up pretty well, but the thrifty farmers hope to get even better figures for their products.

Plan to Avert Rate War.

San Francisco, Jan. 30.—An attempt is now being made, it is said, to arrange a settlement between the railroad companies and Pacific coast steamship companies on the one side and the Steam Schooner Managers' Association on the other and thus avert the rate war that is impending. A schedule advancing passenger and freight rates has been submitted to the steam schooner owners, coupled with the stipulation, however, that the latter shall refrain from doing business with certain ports. The proposed arrangement is considered in many quarters tantamount to a combination

of all interests to control passenger rates and eventually the coast traffic.

Marine Notes.

The license of the pilot schooner Pulitzer was yesterday renewed at the local customs house.

The steamer Aurella arrived yesterday from San Francisco. She is to load lumber at the Hume mill.

The schooner Challenger arrived yesterday from San Francisco. She is to load lumber at the Hume mill.

Captains Edwards and Fuller were in the city yesterday to inspect the steamer Vosburg. They returned to Portland on the night train.

The steamship Oregon arrived yesterday from San Francisco, with a large freight list and a number of passengers. She proceeded up the river after a stay of a few hours at the local dock.

WEALTHIEST OF PERSIANS

After Several Months Absence From Persia Ex-Grand Vizier Goes East.

SUMMONED HOME BY SHAH

Tries to Persuade Japanese Officials to Find Peaceful Way Out of Present Troubles With Russia.

New York, Jan. 30.—His excellency, All Asghar Kahn Atabek Asam, the wealthiest of Persians and, until four months ago, the grand vizier of his country, sailed today for Europe. He had just arrived here from the west and is said to have been summoned by a cablegram from the shah to again take office. His excellency's reason for leaving Teheeran last September is somewhat wrapped in mystery, but it is apparent that he temporarily fell from power and found it advisable to leave the country without delay. Leaving Persia he traveled to Russia and by rail crossed Siberia, spent a short time in Corea and Japan and from Tien Tsin took ship for San Francisco, one of his fellow passengers on the voyage being Governor Taft.

"I had read and heard much of your country," he said through his secretary, who acted as interpreter, "but it far surpassed my expectations. All through the east your country has a great name and you are looked on as one of the most powerful people in the world. I hope to be able to return some day and make a longer visit."

Speaking of the Russian-Japanese trouble he said: "War would be most unfortunate for both nations. When the Japanese ministers asked me for my opinion I advised them strongly to make every possible effort to end the trouble by diplomatic means."

With his excellency were his secretary, the minister of education in Persia and three students.

To Supply Anti-Toxin.

New York, Jan. 30.—The Newark, N. J., board of health is considering an appeal from Chicago for a supply of anti-toxin and within a few days several hundred ten-centimetre vials will be forwarded to that city, while arrangements will be made to turn out and ship about 800 vials a month. Newark established several years ago a laboratory for the manufacture of anti-toxin, but the capacity will have to be increased as the output now is only 1000 vials monthly, a large portion of which is used by the city.

Prices Are Reacting.

New York, Jan. 30.—The activity of the stock market has decreased and prices have reacted this week. The leadership of organized speculators has proved ineffectual to attract outside demand for stocks. Conditions in the iron and steel trade have caused renewed solicitude and the reaction in copper has aggravated it. Net earnings of railroads for December published during the week were poor. The check to the inflow of the currency to New York has resulted in firmer rates for time loans and has given warning of the necessity to curtail the rate of loan expansion recently in force. The pressure to sell on the reaction has been light and the market has not developed acute weakness.

Peruvian Post Dead.

New York, Jan. 30.—Senor Luis Benjamin Cisneros, a noted Peruvian poet, is dead, according to a Herald dispatch from Lima, Peru.

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The Morning Astorian will be found for sale at Griffin's book store and at Scully's cigar store, corner Eleventh and Commercial streets.

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HARRY JONES, Opposite Kopp's Brewery.

Piano Tuner. For good, reliable piano work see your local tuner, Th. Fredrickson, 2071 Bond street. Phone Red 2074.

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The Lee electric insoles, which are sold by the Owl drug store exclusively and under guarantee for cure, are not previously charged with electricity, but accomplish their wonderful cures by the natural current generated by the acid fluids of the body, acting on the positive and negative poles of the battery formed by the zinc plate in one heel and the copper plate in the other. See them in the window. Ask for a descriptive booklet telling of the marvelous cures of rheumatism.

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TWO MASKED MEN HOLD ELEVEN SALOON GUESTS

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 30.—About 11 o'clock last night two masked men held up the Court saloon at Kendrick, Idaho, securing over \$40 in cash. Eleven men who were in the saloon were made to stand with hands up, facing the wall, while their pockets were searched. The robbers took to the south, making for Lewiston, part of their journey being made by boat down the Pottlatch river. Late this afternoon both were captured after several shots were fired, by which one was injured. One of the men has been positively identified.

MILL EMPLOYS BOYS IN PLACE OF STRIKERS

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 30.—Sixty shingle mill employees who are on strike at Bellingham have reported to State Labor Commissioner Blackman that the strike, if unsuccessful, presages a general cut in the mill employees' wages throughout the state. The labor commissioner, who made an unsuccessful attempt this week to settle the strike, found the mill employing 12 boys of school age in place of the strikers, and reported the case to the school authorities. The mill involved is the largest exclusive shingle mill in the world. The strikers claim the reduction in wages is to test the strength of the Shingle Weavers' union, decided upon by the Manufacturers' Association.

Russian Enter Corea.

New York, Jan. 30.—Small parties of Russian soldiers are beginning to appear on the banks of the Yalu river, cables the Seoul, Corea, correspondent of the Herald. Twenty mounted troops crossed into Corea at Samsu, near the headwaters, and 14 reached Antung. They were officers said to be investigating cities for barracks.

Enough Rifles To Equip Army.

Washington, Jan. 30.—The war department has announced that by early fall there will be enough new Springfield rifles on hand to equip the entire army.

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