

Room and Opportunity in Tillamook County for the Residents of the Overcrowded East

The East is congested with humanity struggling for a place in which to exist; the Middle West no longer has room for its rapidly increasing millions and there is but one spot for the seeker of a home to turn, and that is the Pacific coast. There he may find a place to build for himself, his wife and his babies, a home and stand a chance to battle with the world and succeed, while his less fortunate brother in lands to the eastward has only failure staring him in the face.

When the Easterner comes West and begins casting about for a place in which to settle down, no more favorable region than the coast of Oregon appeals to him, and no more favorable locality than Tillamook county catches his fancy.

This bustling country, with its rugged coast line, its tree-covered mountains, its rich valleys and busy towns, is as yet undeveloped. Of the 727,280 acres of land in Tillamook county, only 8,451 are under cultivation. While a large amount of land is rugged and perhaps unutilized, there is much that is of the richest, as has been proven by those who are farming in this section of the state and raising among the finest products of the Northwest.

The lumbering industry is yet in its infancy, and with 20,000,000,000 feet of standing timber there is work for years to come for any number of sawmills. But eight lumbering establishments now exist in Tillamook county, and these are always busy.

As a dairying country Tillamook has already gained for itself an enviable reputation, and has in operation 15 butter and cheese factories. The number of cattle is 7,668 head. There are 1,780 head of sheep and goats. Less than 1,000 head of swine are shown by the assessment rolls, while horses and mules number 1,006.

A tax assessment of 27 mills compares favorably with the excessive rates in the East, and the thriving county shows a total property valuation of \$2,192,437.

Tillamook contains 167 miles of telephone and telegraph lines, and all parts of the county are in almost direct communication with the outside world. The greatest drawback to the region is its lack of railroads, not a foot of steel track having been laid in Tillamook. However, with a natural harbor, one of the best on the Pacific coast, from San Francisco to the Straits of Fuca, the county has ample water transportation facilities.

The excellence of the roads make travel comparatively easy, and there is not a spot in the entire locality that cannot be reached from the city of Tillamook in a day's journey.

The county is bounded on the north by Clatsop, the northwest county of the state; on the east, by Lincoln county, and on the south, by Clatsop and the Siletz Indian reservation on the south. Portland, the metropolis of the Northwest, is but 65 miles almost directly east of Tillamook City, and San Francisco, the great city of the Pacific, is but 300 miles distant to the east and south. The west side line of the Southern Pacific railroad parallels the county. North Yamhill, Yamhill county, being the nearest railway station for stage communication with Tillamook City.

Aside from the commercial and agricultural aspect of Tillamook county, it is noted as a game and fish region, its mountains overflowing with grouse, its streams and even bear and other large wild animals, while gamey trout infest the rivers and small streams. The beaches are among the best along the coast and each season are becoming more popular with those seeking pleasant places to spend the summer months. Streams and rivers generously traverse the county. Beginning at the north boundary they are Nehalem river, Cook creek, Miamie river, Kilches river, Willamette river, Tillamook river, Beaver creek, Nestucca river and Little Nestucca river.

There are 20 towns and postoffices in the county, the largest and most important being Tillamook. Three other busy little towns are situated on Tillamook bay, Bay City, Hobsonville and Garibaldi. Nehalem, at the mouth of the river which bears its name, is a prosperous little village, and its future appears to be most rosy one.

While not known to the settler as early as the Willamette valley, the Tillamook country has been inhabited by white men since 1851. On April 1 of that year Joseph C. Champion, the first man to settle in the locality, entered the bay of Tillamook in a whale boat with two other companions, Samuel Howard and W. Taylor. With provisions for six months, Taylor and Howard left Champion and returned to Clatsop. A month later Champion erected the first house on the bay. The first white woman to visit the place was the wife of Nathan Dougherty, who came to Tillamook the following spring.

The Soil of Tillamook.

Year by year the farmers are clearing more and more land. The use of the soil for grazing purposes, however, for the most part has been found more profitable than for the raising of grain. Haying is one of the chief industries in the valley regions and along the coast where the lowlands, especially the tide flats, are very fertile.

The lands of Tillamook may be divided into four classes—bottom, tide, prairie and timber. The first named is the boon of every farmer for the rich "made" soil washed down into the bottoms by the mountain torrents and the rains is of such quality that the dairying industry is growing to proportions that startle even the native. In its natural state the bottom land is covered with dense thickets of trees and underbrush that only hard work can remove. Fire, axe and stock all lend a hand in the clearing of this bottom land, and, once free of its wild growth, it furnishes excellent pastures. Most of the lowland farmers pasture their stock until late in April and then cut from three to five tons of hay. If the grasses were allowed to grow without being browsed upon by the stock, the farmers claim that the quality would be too rank.

Potatoes, cabbage, sweet corn and other garden truck make wonderful growth on this bottom land. To the homemaker with limited means but with determination and pluck a home is within reach. Unimproved land sells for about \$20 an acre. Cleared it brings

not less than \$75, and as high as \$250, per acre.

The tide flats produce tide land grass in great abundance, which as a forage is found very nutritious. As pastures these flats are very good, and cattle for butchering purposes are generally turned on the tide lands to put on the finishing touches just before going to the slaughter.

The prairie soil is the poorest land in the entire Tillamook region. It is used little but for sheep and goat grazing, of which it has been found very acceptable.

The timber lands are well termed the "wealth of Tillamook." With their millions of feet of uncut lumber they are as yet untouched and will furnish for years to come an industry that will make the country famous.

Timber and Fuel.
The wood of Tillamook's forests consists of spruce, fir, cedar, larch and hemlock. The numerous waterways and the sharp decline of the land toward the sea makes it possible for logs to be transported to the coast with but little cost. With big sawmills situated at the natural harbors vessels could easily load and Tillamook's foreign lumber trade would be no small thing in the eyes of the world.

Aside from lumber, the large amount of spruce and cottonwood would make the manufacture of paper an industry that would cause alarm to the big concerns in the East that today control most of the paper of the United States.

The excessive rainfall on the coast has caused a wonderful growth of trees and vegetation on the hills, mountains and valleys of Tillamook, some of the timber scaling 15,000,000 feet to a quarter section.

While there are but eight sawmills in the county the lumber industry at the present time is much greater than it appears. The rafting of logs to San Francisco and other mills to the south is a regular thing, and tugs are constantly employed towing huge rafts of raw timber down the coast.

The fuel industry is small, most of the wood being used for local consumption, as the vast forests of the Willamette valley and the Puget sound furnish all the material of that kind needed in the large towns of the Northwest. However, thousands of feet of timber yearly go to waste because of lack of transportation facilities, and because of the fact that everyone has "wood to burn." Farmers, in clearing their land, like the early settlers of the new world, find that the easiest way to rid themselves of the forests is by applying the torch, and fuel that in the East would bring a fancy price is heaped up and burned to remove it from land wanted for agricultural purposes.

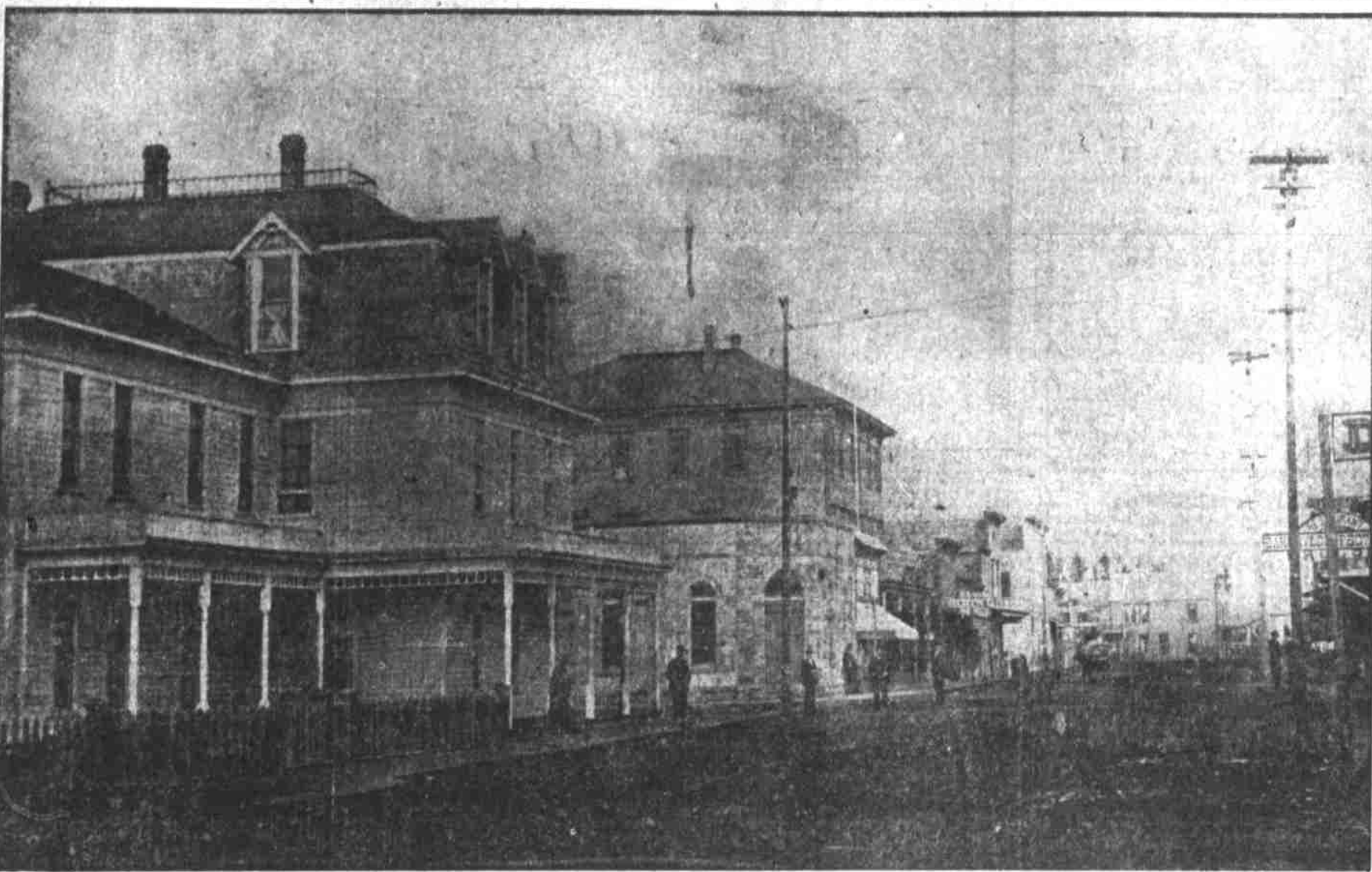
Notwithstanding the fact that the building of wooden vessels is becoming a thing of the past, the shores of Tillamook bay furnish an excellent natural site for a shipyard, with abundant material at hand. Oregon fir is recognized the world over as the finest timber for masts, and there is scarcely a schooner plying on the coast whose spars and "sticks" are not Oregon products. Oregon fir, says the mariner, stands the weather better than most any other kind of wood, at the same time being light and tough.

Honey and Cranberries.

The acres upon acres of clover and the countless hillside abloom with wild flowers make the Tillamook country a profitable one for the honey grower, and there is hardly a farmhouse in the county that does not have its stand of bees. Along the Nestucca river the bee industry is made a regular business. There it has been found that the apiarists can be conducted to the best advantage and the honey finds a ready sale all over the coast.

The honey industry has grown to such proportions that Krebs Brothers, at Woods, make a specialty of manufacturing bee hives, comb frames and other apiary supplies. The plant was formerly located near Three Rivers.

To him who desires to invest a little money from which in a few years a small fortune can be realized, the raising of cranberries offers tempting inducements in Tillamook. The Sand Lake district is without question the most extensive cranberry region in the state of Oregon, and those interested in the culture of these berries claim that the returns from the money and labor



MAIN STREET, TILLAMOOK, LOOKING EAST.

invested are very encouraging. W. C. King of Sand Lake, known as the berry King, says that his boys yield 1,000 bushels of cranberries to the acre, and that \$1 per bushel is a small estimate of the net profit. To prepare the boys means an outlay of about \$400 per acre, but the original cost is about all, and it takes but a year or two for the farms to pay for themselves.

The Tillamook berries are said to be of a darker color than the Eastern products, and are of a better flavor. They are heavier than the berry of the Atlantic seaboard, although no larger in size.

Need of Railroads.

The crying need of Tillamook, especially the bay cities, is a railroad line in direct communication with Portland. Portland, the residents of Tillamook declare, is not awake to the trade it loses because of lack of transportation accommodations to this county. San Francisco is 300 miles south of Tillamook, yet it handles nearly as much of the trade of this locality as does the big Oregon city, less than a third as far away.

Several surveys have been made at different times and, although there is some opposition to a rail line into the county, for the most part the citizens favor such a move.

The only communication with the out-

side world, aside from the vessels, is a daily stage from North Yamhill, about 30 miles east of Tillamook City. This, of necessity, makes the mail service unsatisfactory.

Dairying.

Tillamook has often been called the Devonshire of Oregon. This name has been given on account of the many fine dairy farms scattered throughout the county. And it is these farms that make the Tillamook country not only one of the richest sections of this commonwealth, but also one of the most desirable places in the Northwest in which to reside.

For many years dairying has been one of the leading industries of the county. But only during the last few years has it been carried on in a scientific manner. Many men have grown rich within the past few years just from the sale of milk. And now the raising of cows is an industry second only to that of hawing down trees. The former work is far easier and more enjoyable.

The climate of Tillamook county is almost ideal for the raising of fine dairy cattle. In the valleys, where are located the largest dairy farms, snow is almost unknown. The grass keeps "a-wearin' of the green" all the year around, the cows having fresh pasture 12 months out of the year. True, they

are fed some hay during the winter months, but this is done only to increase the flow of milk. White clover grows very rapidly all over the lowlands throughout the county. It is said that this sort of grass never withers, although the growth is not as luxuriant during the winter as it is in the warmer months.

Thousands of tons of red clover are raised every year by the ranchers to be used as hay during the rainy season. Another sort of winter feed used by the farmers of the county is green hay. The grain is cut just as it is heading out, it being more valuable when used for hay than it would be if allowed to mature and then threshed.

The dairymen of Tillamook county are beginning to take great pride in the fine breed of the cattle raised on their ranches. It has been a number of years ago since the ranchers began to sell off their herds of "scrubs" and import the finest breeds of dairy cattle to be purchased on the coast. At first Jersey cattle were the most popular with the largest ranch owners, but it was found that this breed, although producing a very fine quality of milk, was too light when it came to selling the stock on the market. Today the best of the dairy farms contain herds of Durhams, Guernseys, Herefords and Holsteins, as well as Jerseys.

The dairies of the Tillamook country contain from 15 to 100 head of cows. The ranchman has a far easier way of storing up a goodly portion of this world's wealth than do the farmers of the East and Middle West. There are no hot, dry summers; freezing, icy winters; cyclones, chinch bugs, and other worries that cause the Eastern farmer to almost forget that life is worth living.

There is said to be no sickness whatever among the cattle of the section of Oregon. The cows always have plenty of rich feed; they are not subject to sudden changes in the weather, and do not experience any of the extremes in the temperature. With all these natural advantages, it is no wonder that Tillamook county is known far and wide as "the dairyman's paradise."

Cheese Making Great Industry.

Cheese making is the leading manufacturing industry of Tillamook county, there being at present some 20 factories, all of which are working overtime in order to try to meet the increased demand for this product. The factories are so located throughout the county that every dairymen is able to have a daily market for his milk.

The first plant in the county for the manufacturing of cheese was started by McIntosh & Townsend, in 1894. Mr. McIntosh now owns seven of the largest factories in the county. The demand for the "made-in-Tillamook" brand of cheese soon became so great that within a few years after the first factory was started several of the large butter makers discontinued the manufacture of this dairy product and followed the lead of McIntosh & Townsend.

But the demand continued to increase more rapidly than the supply, and within the last few months all of the creameries were changed into cheese factories. Some new ones are being erected, and butter-making plants in operation in the county. It is feared by some that the carrying of coals to Newcastle will be paralleled by the importing of butter into Tillamook. It has been the custom of the cheese factories to manufacture a great deal of butter during the months of December, January, February and March, the demand for cheese being somewhat light during this season of the year. But the demand for the last-named product has become so steady and the price has kept up so well that it is reported that the factories will now continue to make cheese the whole year through. The Tillamook cheese is said to sell on the San Francisco market for from 2 to 3 cents more than is paid for the California product.

Owing to the great demand for the manufactured product, the price paid the farmers for butter fat has been of the record-breaking order. Careful dairymen clear from \$50 to \$75 yearly on each cow from the milk alone. There are said to be 2,400 cows milked within a radius of four miles around Tillamook City.

It is estimated that 1,500,000 pounds of cheese will be manufactured in Tillamook county this year. A bulk of this food is being shipped to coast cities south of Tillamook, although a great deal is purchased by Portland, Seattle and Tacoma merchants; several tons have also been recently ordered by Idaho and Alaska business firms.

Mr. McIntosh this summer began to parallel the cheese makers in his factories. This consists of covering the rolls of cheese with a coat of paraffine wax, making the food almost airtight, thus keeping it from shrinking and causing it to be more palatable.

Commerce of the Bay.

That Tillamook will someday be one of the most important seaports on the whole Pacific Coast is the opinion of nearly everyone who has visited that city within the last few years. The broad waters of Tillamook bay afford suitable anchorage for a great fleet of vessels, and at no distant date it is thought by people residing in that section of the state that ships from all parts of the world will call there and await their turn to receive a cargo of Tillamook county products for lands across the sea.

At present the bay at the mouth of

the bay is causing the navigators some trouble. The tides are shifting in such a manner that it is somewhat hard to always find the deepest channel without the vessels having to slow down their speed and use great care in working in over the bar. But this trouble is expected to soon be a thing of the past. Several months ago an appropriation was made by congress for the surveying of this bar. This work has recently been completed by the board of engineers of the United States stationed at Portland and the report of these officers is now on file at the war department at Washington. While no one except those who made the survey knows just what the report contains, it is the opinion of the Tillamookers that the officers found that if the government will take the work in hand this may be made one of the best harbors on the coast.

The commerce of the Tillamook bay country is growing every year, and it is stated by those who know that as soon as the government deepens the channel over the bar this trade will increase five fold the first year, as larger ships may then sail into the harbors along this bay. The leading exports of the county are lumber, cheese, eggs and fish; honey and cranberries may also be added to this list. The imports consist chiefly of general merchandise, agricultural implements and flour. At present nearly all of the lumber is shipped to San Francisco, while the cheese exports are divided between Portland and the Puget Sound and California ports.

Experts have estimated that there is at present 20,000,000,000 feet of standing timber in the county. Nearly all of this will be shipped by water transportation, so many state, which will require a fast fleet to do the carrying. Cattle-raising is also becoming more extensive each year and the farmers are of the opinion that steamers fitted out so as to carry livestock direct to the markets of large Pacific Coast cities will soon be needed.

Port of Tillamook Commission.

The Port of Tillamook commission, which was created by the Maxwell law, is doing everything in its power to further the commerce of the city from which the board takes its name. The port of Tillamook is defined as "all that part (of Tillamook county) included in the present corporate limits of the city of Tillamook, and all feet on each bank of Hoquorton slough, from the city boundary of said city of Tillamook westward to and including Dry Stocking bar."

The powers of the commission are: Control, so far as the state can allow, of over Hoquorton slough, from the city boundary by levying a tax not exceeding two mills on the taxable property within the corporate jurisdiction; to collect wharfage and tonnage dues not exceeding 10 cents per ton; to appoint a port warden to take charge of the shipping and collecting wharfage and tonnage dues.

The average tax that has been levied by this commission is said to have been only one mill per annum. But the board has done a great deal of work to push forward the commerce of the bay. Some time ago a dredger was purchased at the cost of \$5,000, to be used in clearing Hoquorton slough. The craft is in the command of Capt. Groat, and it has been doing very great service in clearing the slough of logs, snags and sunken boats; it has also been used in straightening the channel, having dug away many of the "sharp corners" of the bends in the stream.

The commissioners are going to ask for an appropriation of \$20,000 for the purchasing of a Bowers dredge. This will be used in not only deepening the channel in the slough so that the vessels of larger draft may steam up to the Tillamook City wharves, but the dredge will also straighten the slough so the risk of running a ship's prow into a mud bank will not be as great as it is at the present time.

The citizens of Tillamook county and the port commission will petition congress for an appropriation of \$200,000 for the building of a jetty out from the mouth of the bay in order that large sea-going craft can come in and load their cargoes at the wharves of the cities along that body of water. Vessels drawing 18 and 20 feet have sailed in and out of the bay, but recently the sea has been so high in such a manner as to make it somewhat dangerous for large ships to attempt to cross it. It is thought that the next rivers and harbors bill will make ample provisions for furthering the work of improving the entrance to the bay.

The present port of Tillamook commission is composed of the following: A. J. Cohn, president; B. O. Snuffer, vice-president; Claud Thayer, secretary; D. T. Edmunds, treasurer; B. L. Eldy, B. C. Lewis, Alexander McNair, T. B. Handley and F. R. Beals.

The Local Newspapers.

The citizens of the county are kept informed of the local happenings by four first-class weekly newspapers, three of which are published in Tillamook City, the other at Woods. All are up-to-date, live publications and are receiving the loyal support of the citizens of the county to whose welfare these papers devote their space.

The pioneer newspaper of that section of this state is the Tillamook Headlight. It first began to shine 18 years ago and has never been popular with a large number of families throughout the country. The present editor, Fred C. Baker, has been in charge of the paper during the past five years. Mr. Baker is a practical printer, having learned his trade in Portsmouth, England.

The Tillamook Herald, edited by Rollie W. Watson, was started eight years ago and has never missed an issue since the day of its "birth." Although having lived in Tillamook only two years Mr. Watson is right up with all the progressive movements on foot in the county. He recently installed a new power press. Mr. Watson was a sailor on the cruiser Olympia during the battle of Manila bay.

The Independent, the new paper of Tillamook, was founded several months ago by R. M. Watson. Mr. Watson has been an active newspaperman for the past 25 years, having been editor of the Tillamook Herald several years before he sold it to his nephew, the present editor. The Independent is a live paper.

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LOGGING SCENE, TILLAMOOK COUNTY.