

# BUILDING NEWS



## LUMBER DOWN TO COST OF LOGS

Sawmills Resume Operations After a Close-Down of Several Months.

## HOPE FOR BETTER MARKET IN SPRING

Common Rough Lumber Sells Lower Than for Many Months—Shingles Still in Poor Demand, Some Manufacturers Declining to Quote Prices

Although there appears to be no improvement in the market for lumber, sawmills throughout this district are resuming operations, owners hoping that the near future will bring business. Beginning next week some mills will be operated on an eight-hour basis while others will work ten.

Stocks have run low during the winter months owing to a general curtailment in the output, but it will not take long to replenish the piles in the yards unless business picks up. As a result of the poor California demand and light eastern shipments, owing to the difficulty incident to the increased freight, rough common stock is down to nearly the price of sawed logs, which means anywhere from \$7 to \$10 per 1,000 feet.

These bargain counter quotations are expected to prevail only a short time, however, because they permit of no margin for the manufacturer. Logs have declined some, it is said, but are still high as compared with other times when lumber was down to quotations furnished today.

California is buying very little, but it is hoped that the clearing up of the financial situation will be followed by a revival in the building industry there as well as elsewhere, where lumber figures materially in construction.

Local demand has been fairly good for this time of year, however, from the tone of conversation of money men many building projects will be launched with the approach of spring. There is still good demand for dwellings and it is predicted that the population will receive a material increase through immigration next spring, all of which will mean new needs for dwellings as well as other structures.

Shingles are still in poor demand but manufacturers are reluctant about quoting lower prices than will leave a living margin and many cases have come to light where millmen have refused to quote, knowing they could not get the business. Rather than sell at a loss, they have concluded to hold for a brisk demand and in the meantime curtail the output.

A large number of foreign buyers have been in this part of the country of late, and it is believed that will soon lead an improvement in the off shore business. Men from England, continental Europe and Australia have been here, doing business and the result, it is believed, will be a close investigation of local conditions.

## WAREHOUSE TO COVER QUARTER OF A BLOCK

Pick Transfer Company's Frame Structure Will Be Completed Shortly.

A three-story frame warehouse is under construction at the corner of Eighth and Pettygrove streets for the Pick transfer company. The building will cover a quarter block and will be equipped with two freight elevators and other modern appliances necessary to an up-to-date warehouse. A spur track will connect the building with all the steam and electric roads entering the city. The concrete foundation was put in last fall and the erection of the frame superstructure will begin in the next few weeks.

## ORIENTAL-AMERICAN SOON TO BE OCCUPIED

The Oriental-American building, at the southwest corner of Second and Salmon streets, is receiving the finishing touches and will be ready for occupancy by February 1. The structure occupies a 50 by 95-foot lot, is four stories high and will cost, when completed, about \$45,000. It is owned by a local Chinese syndicate, of which Moy Back Sin is the head. There are four storerooms on the ground floor, the three upper floors having been leased to Mrs. Venable, who will construct a commercial hotel. A delay of several weeks in receiving some of the finishing material is responsible for the structure not being completed by January 1.

## DOUBLE FLAT TO GO UP ON TWENTY-FOURTH

Otto Rothchild has commissioned Architect Jacobberger to prepare the plans for a residence and a double flat to be erected at Twenty-fourth and Kearney streets. The residence is to be a two-story frame of eight rooms and will cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000. The flat is also to be of frame construction, each apartment containing five rooms. The contracts are to be let January 24, and the buildings will be finished within 90 days.

NEW PROUDFOOT HOTEL BUILDING, EAST BURNSIDE STREET.



February 1, the four-story Proudfoot hotel building, on East Burnside street, the first reinforced concrete structure to go up in the east side business district, will be completed and ready for occupancy. The structure covers a quarter block and was built at a cost of about \$75,000. H. E. Wood & Co., contractors, had the general construction contract, the electrical wiring and fixtures were put in by the Western Electric works, the electric elevators were installed by the Moline Elevator company. The interior decorating and tinting was done by Ernest Miller & Co., decorators and painters. The effects obtained are harmonious and pleasing, showing excellent taste in composition and color, and is one of the best examples of high class decorating in a Portland building. E. H. Edmonds has secured a lease on the building and will open the Heyser hotel, after February 1. It will be operated as a first class commercial hotel and will be a creditable addition to Portland's list of well known hostilities.

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