

BUILDING NEWS

FOREIGN DEMAND RELIEVES MILLS

Countries Across the Sea Take Advantage of Low Lumber Market.

LOCAL FIELD, TOO, IS FAIRLY ACTIVE

During Week Closing Today Portland Lumber Dealers Closed Orders for Approximately 10,000,000 Feet—Rail Business Quiet.

With liberal orders coming in from foreign countries and a fairly active local demand, lumbermen are not as badly off as a few weeks ago when rail shipments for points east of the Rockies were practically called off. At that time foreign business was very slack. The foreign business is relieving cargo mills although the business has been and is being secured at low prices. It is said to be a certainty that without relief from the foreign markets the new and advanced freight rate coupled with the financial flurry throughout the country, would have meant that most of the mills in this district and on the Washington coast, too, would have had to remain closed for a long time. While a number of mills depending chiefly upon rail business, are still closed most mills on navigable waters have resumed operations. Arrangement for the export of approximately 10,000,000 feet to the orient from this port were made during the week. While the business is being done at a small margin, it is said to have a tendency to advertise the Oregon pine so that future business might result under more satisfactory conditions. Local prices have shown no decline during the week and while some predict that the bottom has not yet been reached, more optimistic dealers are of the opinion that the next change will be an advance. Logs are still being held at from \$7 to \$10 per thousand, which millmen declare precludes any possibility of further slashing in quotations.

Logging camps along the lower Columbia river have been resuming operations gradually but there are still a few that will probably not begin felling trees till the beginning of April. Those in operation have been favored with exceptionally fine weather. Shingle manufacturers report noticing a heavier tone in the market, although prices are still down. Most of the mills in this vicinity are cutting. The Portland Lumber company will close down today for two weeks for a general overhauling after having run day and night for several weeks getting out foreign cargoes. The steamer Morinda left that mill today for Port Adelaide with 2,000,000 feet and the American bark Acme is there loading for New York. She will take away 2,000,000 feet.

PLANT TO MANUFACTURE CONCRETE SUPPLIES

Property at Sellwood Bought by Blue Diamond Pressed Stone Company.

The Composite Pressed Brick company's plant at Sellwood has passed into the hands of the Blue Diamond Pressed Stone company, by purchase, which is making arrangements to utilize the Sellwood plant for the manufacture of general concrete supplies. Included in the list of supplies to be turned out by the plant will be hollow cement blocks, cement brick, porch columns, cement shingles, etc. The manager of the Diamond Pressed Stone company says that as soon as the machinery can be purchased and installed that concrete tombstones and vaults will be made at the Sellwood plant. The present capital of the two companies is \$100,000, which is to be increased and the proceeds expended in the building of the largest plant of its kind on the Pacific coast. The company will eventually employ at its Sellwood plant a force of 25 men for the manufacture of its composite brick, which it will continue. Willamette river sand combined with silica sand is used. A special machine has been purchased, which will turn out a superior class of face brick which can be sold for \$30 per thousand, the same class of brick now bringing in this market \$60 per thousand. Ornamental concrete work, will also be made, which it is said will equal terra cotta as ornamental building material.



Chinese Building Put Up by the Oriental Company at Second and Salmon Streets.

MILLION A MONTH PERMIT AVERAGE

February Shows Greatly Increased Activity Over the Month Previous.

APARTMENT HOUSE ON SALMON STREET

Dwellings of Moderate Cost Are Being Erected on Both Sides of the River—Bright Prospects for Spring Months.

Building permits issued during the present week have averaged nearly \$40,000 a day in value. This is at the rate of nearly \$1,000,000 a month, and if it continues will result in a total for the month of February nearly double that of January.

One of the largest and most important building developments inaugurated during this week is an apartment house on Salmon street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets to cost \$20,000. The house is to be built for I. N. Buell by Contractor W. R. Griffith. It is to be a frame structure, 50x100 feet and five stories high. At the southeast corner of East Thirty-fourth street and Belmont, A. Spier has commenced the erection of a three-story apartment house, the lower floor to be used for mercantile purposes. The building is to be 60x65 feet and will cost between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

The two-story flat on Jefferson street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets, belonging to the Reed estate is to have another story added. The work is in charge of Architect W. L. Morgan. When completed the building will contain six flats and be thoroughly modernized. Mrs. C. D. Brunh has commissioned a local architect to prepare plans for a 10-room residence to be built on Williams avenue. The building will contain six rooms and will cost \$3,000. Dr. J. B. Keefer is preparing to put up a modern two-story frame dwelling on Williams avenue. The building will contain six rooms and will cost \$3,000. Contractor A. F. Squires is building a four-story frame flat on Larrabee street, between Dupont and Dixon, for C. V. Lankin, to cost \$8,500. The Dammer Investment company has begun the construction of a double flat, at the corner of Eleventh and Jackson streets, to cost \$8,000.

A one-story frame dwelling at the corner of East Fourteenth and Hancock streets, to cost \$5,000, is under construction for C. E. Bade. Contractor J. I. Routledge is doing the work. A permit has been issued to S. H. Korrell for the erection of a handsome two-story frame dwelling on Hoyt street, between Twenty-second and Twenty-third streets, to cost \$4,000. At the head of Wilson street, on Thurman, a \$3,000 residence is going up for A. M. D.

CONCRETE PUTS UP GOOD FIGHT

Properly Made Mixture Bravely Withstood Flames in Frisco Disaster.

WHOLE CITY IS DUSTING ITSELF

Season of General Repair Work and Cleaning Engages Residents.

Now is the time to make repairs, to build barns and stables, to put up fences, to stake off chicken yards, to reshingle roofs, to refix chimneys, to put in firebricks back to the fireplaces, to have stone walls built around your lots, in fact to have anything done around and about the house.

Why? Because there are lots and cords of good workmen who will be glad to get these odd jobs and who will do the work for a price that will make it to your advantage. So said a very observant man to a Journal representative, one who is in close touch with the labor conditions and generally knows what he is talking about when he speaks with regard to the laboring man. This man voiced the opinion of many others, and what he suggested is already under way all over the city. There never was quite so much repair work and overhauling of old buildings going on. Some of the big downtown office buildings and business blocks are undergoing a general repairing, new floors laid, fallen plastering repaired, wall kalsomined, etc. Much of this work is being done simply because the owners can have it done now for less money than was possible at any time during the past half dozen years. A large amount of cement retaining wall building is going on in the residence districts as a result of cheaper cement and cheaper labor. A contractor who does this class of work made the statement that he could build cement retaining walls now for 60 per cent of what they would have cost one year ago. Property owners are quick to take advantage of an opportunity to make improvement of this character at a considerable reduction in cost of such work in normal times.

Deranged on Religion. (Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Junction City, Or., Feb. 22.—Mrs. Eureka Willetts, of this city, was taken to Eugene Tuesday, being adjudged insane and will be taken to the asylum at Salem. Mrs. Willetts is deranged for a number of years. She is the third wife of A. M. D.

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Oklahoma Democrats for Bryan. (United Press Leased Wire.) Muskogee, Okla., Feb. 22.—The Democratic state convention of Oklahoma assembled here today to select four delegates-at-large to the national convention and to ratify the choice of delegates of the several congressional districts. Present indications are that the Oklahoma delegation will be unanimous for William J. Bryan for the presidential nomination.

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