

OREGON FIR WILL SOON COME INTO ITS OWN IN EAST

Building of Panama Canal and Decadence of Yellow Pine Will Put Oregon Product in First Place of Soft Woods.

Leonard Bronson, manager of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association, with headquarters at Chicago, is in Portland today on a tour of the Pacific coast in the interest of the organization and the lumber industry. Mr. Bronson was for a number of years, until January 1, last, editor in chief of the American Lumberman and is considered perhaps the best posted man pertaining to the lumber industry in the United States.

Mr. Bronson arrived yesterday and is registered at the Portland. Today he is attending the opening session of the Second Annual Logging congress in the Forestry building and Saturday he will be guest of honor at a luncheon to be given by the members of the Oregon & Washington Lumber Manufacturers' association at the Portland Commercial club.

Problem for Lumbermen.

"The greatest problem confronting the lumber manufacturing industry of the United States today is the disposition of the low grade material," said Mr. Bronson in speaking of trade conditions. "There is a big demand for high grade lumber, but this cannot be said of the low grades, which enter largely in the manufacture of lumber. This is due to two causes, substitution and the reduction of duty on Canadian lumber. The fact that large quantities of boxes are coming to be manufactured of other material than wood is of no little concern to the lumber industry. Then came the reduction in the duty on Canadian lumber which meant increased competition principally in the low grade markets, for while the Canadian millmen like the manufacturer in the states, could always find a market in this country for the high grade material irrespective of the duty, he had difficulty in disposing of the low grade material.

"This trouble was accentuated by the reduction of the duty and yet the final consumer was benefited not at all. It simply meant a larger supply of low grade material with which the market was already abundantly provided.

Opposed to Conservation.

"This question is one that will not be easily solved and it is a serious matter because it works in direct opposition to the movement for the conservation of natural resources which the lum-

ber manufacturers are heartily indorsing and supporting.

"Matters of this kind are subjects for the national association to study and solve if a solution can be found. The association is the senate of the lumber manufacturers' associations in the states and it represents all sections from the yellow pine districts of the south to the fir districts of the Pacific coast and the redwood districts of California.

"When the tariff was up for revision we fought for retention of the duty on lumber because we knew that a reduction would have an evil effect upon the industry without materially benefiting the consumer. The public had gained the wrong impression of conditions and in the middle states there was a cry for 'lower' tariff. Entire removal of the duty would have been a disastrous blow to one of the most important industries in the country without benefiting anyone except the foreign manufacturers and the foreign shipowners."

Canal Will Aid Trade.

"That the opening of the Panama canal will bring Oregon fir into its own is the prediction of Mr. Bronson. The opening of the canal will be of immense importance to the lumber industry, he explains, for it will open fields to the Oregon lumber manufacturer from which he is now excluded by the high transportation charges, necessitated by the costly haul over the mountains.

"Lumber manufactured in Oregon reaches the middle states only in such quantities as might be required for special purposes because competition with yellow pine from the south will not permit paying the high freight. But with the completion of the Panama canal it will be possible to ship lumber from Portland to New York or other Atlantic coast ports by water for about half the rate now charged by the railroads. This market 500 miles or more inland from the Atlantic coast may be reached on competition terms.

High Price of Yellow Pine.

"The manufacture of yellow pine is now at its zenith and it will gradually diminish, although so slowly as to be hardly noticeable in the next decade. But the output will lessen and each succeeding year more rapidly after the first decline is noted. Then the Oregon fir will be called upon to fill the bill and some day it will be the one leading soft wood lumber in the United States."

Mr. Bronson looks upon the standing timber of the Pacific northwest as a wonderful asset.

"Timber was never known to decline in value," he said, "and the fortunes that have been made in the lumber industry have been made largely in the increase in value of stumpage. There is not much money in the manufacture of lumber, but the man who can buy timber has a sure thing, eliminating the fire hazard, and it is gradually being reduced to the minimum.

To Consecrate New Bishop.

Vancouver, B. C. July 21.—Roman Catholics throughout western Canada are looking forward with eager interest to the consecration of Rev. A. U. de Pencier, M. A., as bishop of the diocese of New Westminster. The event, which is to take place next Monday morning in St. Paul's church, this city, will be the first ceremony of its kind ever performed in British Columbia.

GOOD TIME FOR EASTERN DOCTORS

Homeopaths Returning Home From Convention to Stop Off Here Two Days.

Physicians of the homeopathic faith will be guests of Portland next Saturday and Sunday. The doctors are returning from the annual national gathering of homeopaths held at Pasadena. It is expected that about 125 will be greeted on their way back to their eastern homes. The visitors are men in the front rank in their profession, coming from the large cities of the east, and nothing will be left undone to make their impressions of Portland pleasant ones.

Dr. J. J. Beaumont is the chairman of the committee of Portland physicians that is looking to the comfort of the travelers. He has outlined a program that is expected to meet with their entire approval. Upon arrival at the Union Depot Saturday at 11:30 a. m. the visiting doctors will be met with automobiles and given a ride over the city, ending at their hotels for lunch.

A trolley ride about Portland will be given at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, the observation cars of the trolley company being used. A reception and buffet luncheon will be given the visitors at the Commercial club Saturday night. The visitors will be allowed to spend Sunday as they like, visiting friends and following their individual bent, but a reception has been planned for Sunday night on the lawn of Dr. E. E. Miller's residence. There will be music and refreshments for the medics.

The high card of the reception committee will be played Monday, when the Columbia river trip will be made. The doctors will take the Bailey Gatzert Monday morning and ride through the Columbia river gorge. They return in the afternoon, visiting salmon canneries along the river. Monday night they leave Portland for Puget sound on their way east. It is believed that the entertainment to be given them here by the local doctors and the Commercial club will be an incident of their trip that will be remembered with pleasure and will be of much benefit to Portland.

Sons of St. George.

Iron Mountain, Mich., July 21.—The British and American colors were much in evidence here today at the opening of the 23d annual reunion of the grand lodge of the Sons of St. George. Nearly all of the cities and towns of the upper peninsula are represented at the gathering, which will continue for three days. A grand parade, a Cornish wrestling tournament and band concerts are features of the elaborate entertainment program.

THE STRANGER WITHIN OUR GATES

Albert Price, Muskogee, Okla.—It looks as if there would be a good chance for many Oklahoma farmers to move to Canada shortly. In the vicinity of Blackwell the crops of all kinds have practically been a failure for the past four years and the farmers are becoming discouraged. Lack of moisture seems to be the principal trouble.

E. N. Joseph, Vincennes, Ind.—There should be an insurance company in this country that would have the nerve and could charge rates high enough to insure timberland. It seems to me that there is a good field for that sort of business and I understand that there is no such an insurance company doing business in this country. Lloyd's of London should take this matter up. I understand they will insure anything.

Harold Simpson, Lakeport, Cal.—People think they have seen California after they have visited Frisco, Sacramento and Los Angeles. But the prettiest spot, not alone in California, but on the entire Pacific coast, is in Lake county and some day we will prove it. Our lakes alone are worth coming to sea, and ours is practically the only county where wild game is still plentiful.

CANBY ENTERTAINS GROCERS OF STATE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Canby, Or., July 21.—The state grocers and their visitors invaded Canby in full force yesterday and the town was turned over to them. The Canby band and President Cobb of the local commercial association greeted the visitors upon their arrival and every one was made to feel at home. The country people have turned out several thousand strong and it is estimated that there are 5000 people celebrating the occasion. The grocers came in special trains.

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