

FORESTS OF OREGON HAVE 20 PER CENT OF STANDING TIMBER

Oregon Forests at a Glance

One-third of the nation's standing timber—450,000,000,000 feet, 1922 cut, about 2,100,000,000 feet; has increased from 1,300,000,000 feet since 1908.
 At 4,500,000,000 feet a year, 100 years' supply is still available.
 Resource brings to state \$100,000,000 a year.
 Forty-five thousand people employed, with \$70,000,000 payroll.
 Four hundred and ninety logging operations, 490 mills, 1000 miles of logging railroad, 300 locomotives, 1000 donkey engines.
 Forty-five per cent of lumber output moved by water; lumber loads 57 per cent of cars sent from Oregon.
 One million eight hundred thousand dollars spent in 1922 for forest protection.

Oregon forests contain 20 per cent of the standing timber in the United States.
 This timber, comprising 450,000,000,000 feet, is 56 per cent privately owned; Oregon and federal government hold 44 per cent of it. State and federal timber in Oregon comprises 8 per cent of all timber in the United States.
 The principal species are: Douglas fir, West Coast hemlock, Western red cedar, Sitka spruce, Noble fir, White fir, Western yellow pine, Western larch, Western white pine, Port Orford cedar.

Oregon forest products are diversified. Some of them are: Lumber, lath, shingles, boxes, barrels, tubs, doors, windows, furniture and store furniture, pulp and paper and veneer. **SUPPORT BIG PAYROLL**
 The industries support a large payroll which in turn supports other industries. About 45,000 people are employed in Oregon in plants producing forest products.

Lumber is, of course, the major product of the forest and its production constitutes Oregon's largest industry. The latest complete data available for the lumber cut of Oregon is for the year 1920, when 3,318,000,000 feet of lumber was produced by the sawmills of Oregon. In the same year 28,721,000 shingles were produced by the shingle mills in the state. The lumber cut this year is estimated at 3,100,000,000 feet.

Planing mills are not producers in the same sense that sawmills are, but they are necessary adjuncts to the sawmills. Planing mills are operated in connection with sawmills and also as independent plants, obtaining the raw material from the sawmills and remanufacturing it into mouldings, interior furnishing and door and window frames.

INDUSTRY GROWS
 The manufacture of doors and windows is becoming a large industry and several plants are engaged in the exclusive manufacture of these products. Each year sees more and more of Oregon lumber manufactured and shipped to the Eastern markets in the form of finished products, where formerly the lumber was shipped rough and remanufactured in the East. This change means that the payroll is being transferred from the East to Oregon—more industries, more people.

The products of rotary cut fir, cedar and spruce veneer are on the increase, partly used locally for door panels and furniture and much shipped East in built-up panels. Some are worked up into berry boxes and crates and some into storage battery separators.
 Box factories utilize the lower grades of lumber, manufacturing a high class of products by cutting out the poor portions of the boards. This utilization is conservation, as some of the lumber used is of too poor a quality to stand the cost of transportation to market in the form of lumber.

PAPER MADE HERE
 The development of the coopeage industry is rather interesting. At first it was thought that hardwood timber was the only coopeage stock, but tests demonstrated that Northwest Douglas fir, spruce and hemlock answered the purpose just as well. Several plants are engaged in the production of barrels, tubs and crates in Oregon, some using logs and others timber as their raw materials.

Paper manufacture is taking more and more material from Oregon forests. Spruce, hemlock and white fir are the species most used. All classes of paper are made, ranging from news, fruit and wrapping paper to the transparent paper used in "window" applications.

The forest products industry annually brings \$110,000,000 into Oregon directly and an additional sum indirectly. The annual pay roll for these industries totals \$70,000,000.

SUPPLY BILL BIG
 These industries have erected other industries dependent in whole or in part on them. It requires a great deal of food and clothing for 45,000 men and those dependent on them; a great deal of machinery and supplies to keep the camps and mills operating. Just what the supply bill amounts to is not known, but it must be enormous.

The lumber produced in Oregon each day will build 1000 homes of five rooms each, a fair sized town.
 Forest products furnish 57 per cent of all east-bound tonnage for the railroads.

Forest protection in the Pacific coast states has become an enormous project. Aside from the national forests, where cost of work is borne by the federal government, states and private owners yearly expend hundreds of thousands of dollars to keep fire out of the timber.

TIME IS FACTOR
 Data for 1922 is not yet complete. Figures available, however, indicate an expenditure of over \$1,500,000 for protection of state and privately owned lands in Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California. In Oregon alone it will exceed \$400,000. Of this amount private owners contributed over \$1,600,000 as against \$270,000 by state and federal government.

A regular force of over 1000 wardens and lookout men was employed throughout the summer months in addition to such fire fighters as the occasion demanded. Tralls and telephone lines are maintained for protection purposes and hundreds of lookout points have been equipped at commanding points from which to discover fires at the earliest possible moment. The greatest element in fire protection is time. If a fire can be attacked during its early stages it is usually extinguished at small expense and without loss of property. Allowed to burn for a day or more unchecked, a hundred men may be needed to fight it.

EMPHASIZE PREVENTION
 Protection agencies, while organized to fight fire if it becomes necessary, place first emphasis on prevention. Before large numbers of people yearly went into the mountains, where operations were few in number and settlers from the foothill country less numerous than at present, protection was a comparatively simple matter. In fact, it

was only practiced by a few of the more prudent timber owners and the state took little or no interest.
 As population has increased, the fire hazard has likewise increased. Hence the effort of federal government, states and timber owners to teach bars with fire in the woods as one of the principal means for reducing loss.

Of late years the public generally has taken added interest in forest matters. This has been stimulated by the cutting out of timber in the northeastern states and predictions of the early falling off of production in the pine forests of the southeast.

VENTURE UNCERTAIN
 It is realized as never before that in the United States are vast areas of land best suited to forest growing; that failing to keep such land productive it becomes a public liability. In the past responsibility of government, states and private owners properly to manage these lands has not been clearly defined.
 Forest growing, which in other countries is a stable business, conducted for profit, is here in no such favorable conditions.

Harsh, unsatisfactory tax laws, high rates of interest and unstable stumpage values, together with the long time required to grow a crop, all tend to make a private venture in forest growing uncertain. Hence, it is generally conceded that federal government and states should, through adequate tax laws, assist in forest protection and in other ways encourage the growing of timber by individuals and corporations, to the extent that the public is interested in timber production. But as yet no stable national forest policy is in effect.
 Attempt through the so-called Shell bill to outline a policy for cooperation between government and states was not successful. Another bill leaving most of the foothill country less numerous than at present, protection was a comparatively simple matter. In fact, it

STAND OF WESTERN HEMLOCK



Two-thirds of the pulpwood cut in the Pacific Northwest for paper manufacture is Western hemlock.

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In the immediate vicinity of Portland are many billion feet of standing timber. Over half of it is Douglas fir, "The Supreme Wood for Buildings and Dwellings."

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