

# PAPAR MILL HERE TO BE READY FOR FIRST WORK BY AUGUST '20

## Sixty-Five Additional Men To Be Added To Force At Work On Big Plant

According to present plans of officials of the Oregon Pulp & Paper company, newly organized paper manufacturing concern erecting a mill at Salem, the plant will be erected and the task of making paper will commence August 1, 1920. With the employment at once of an additional 65 men to assist in construction of the mill, work will be expedited and by the middle of November it is planned to have building well under way.

There are now 65 men engaged in building foundations for the new mill. These men, since commencing work on June 16, 1919, have removed the old Salem Flouring Mills, from the site where the paper mill will stand, provided for foundation bases and are now working on the foundations and walls of the new mill.

**Cost To Be \$800,000.**

According to estimates of company officials the paper mill will cost approximately \$800,000. The paper machine that will be installed costs \$125,000 alone. The mill will have a capacity of 500 tons of high grade paper—the only kind to be made in this new mill—each month, until the plant is enlarged, as is planned when conditions so shape themselves that this can be done.

The Oregon Pulp & Paper company was organized early this year by F. W. Leadbetter, Portland capitalist, is president; Chas. K. Spaulding, president of the Chas. K. Spaulding Logging company, of Salem, vice-president; Roy H. Mills, secretary of the Chas. K. Spaulding Logging company, is named secretary of the paper company; A. N. Bush, prominent Salem banker, treasurer, and Jacob Kaster, for 20 years mill superintendent of the Crown-Willamette Pulp & Paper company, will act as general manager.

**Payroll to Be Large.**

The Oregon Pulp & Paper company was incorporated with a capital stock of \$800,000. Articles of incorporation were filed with the state corporation commissioner late in March.

The mill of the company is located but two blocks from the heart of the Salem business district. It will be 275 feet long and 86 feet wide, with three stories on the west end of the mill, and two stories in the center and on the east end. The building housing the "digester" will be 30x60 feet and 80 feet high. This will adjoin the paper mill.

When the mill begins to operate in August 125 employes will be required. This will mean an addition to Salem's payroll wealth of approximately \$15,000 monthly.

The operations of the mill will be confined solely to making sulphite for grease proof and book print paper. These are the highest grades of paper manufacture. White fir, hemlock and spruce, all to be taken from Oregon forests, will be used to make this paper. It is estimated that 45 cords will be used daily.

**Process Interesting.**

The process of making paper, known to but few persons, is very interesting. The timber from which the paper is made is first cut into blocks about 20 inches long. These blocks are shorn of their bark by specially made machines. They are then placed in "grinders" coming out in chips about half the size of a man's thumb.

These chips are placed in the "digester," a cast iron tank 15 feet in diameter and 40 feet deep. Steam and sulphuric acid are then turned in on these chips, cooking it, and eating out everything but the finest fibres of the wood. This cooking process in the "digester" usually takes from nine to 12 hours. The result of this process, a pulpy substance, is what is termed "sulphite."

**Pulp is Treated.**

The sulphite is then taken to the "beaters," a circular tank containing running water. This reduces the sulphite to a finer degree than when it left the digester. Coloring and other necessary chemicals are then added. From the beater the pulp drops into a tank after reaching a certain fineness. Powerful pumps then force the watery mass into "Jordan machines" where centrifugal motion reduces it to a yet finer state.

It is then conveyed onto screens, passing over which it is reduced to thirteen-thousandths of an inch in size. Swiftly moving tables convey it from the screens on to the "apron cloth" which tends to remove part of the water and spreads it into the desired width for the paper machine.

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The pulp then reaches the "wire." This is a screen, 75 mesh in fineness, which, with the aid of suction tanks beneath, extracts the water leaving a sticky, slimy mass. From the wire it is conveyed on felts into the paper machine.

**Machines are Large.**

The paper machine, in size 175 long and 20 feet wide, consists of 20 drier rolls. After passing around these steam heated rolls the pulp comes out at the other end paper.

Leaving the paper machine the paper is rolled into huge rolls, weighing often as much as a ton each, and being 124 inches long. These rolls are removed to the finishing department where it is cut into desired sizes, and stamp designs are placed.

The paper machine, beaters, finishing department, chippers, barkers and grinders will all be housed in the largest mill. Machine shops, tool houses and supply buildings will also be built in addition to the mill and digester building.

Ordinarily it takes 14 hours from the time the wood is cut into blocks preparatory for the digester to the time it is released from the paper machine.

Harry Jones, well known in all parts of the state as a contractor, is superintendent in charge of construction of the paper mill.

## HEARING IN EASTERN OREGON ON SCHEDULE

Several important hearings effecting communities and utilities in eastern Oregon are scheduled by the public service commission for the first week in December.

Perhaps the most important of these hearings is one effecting the application of the Union County Telephone company for an increase in rates and physical connections with the Home and Pacific companies at La Grande. This hearing will be conducted in La Grande on December 5.

The application of the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company for an increase in electrical rates will be thrashed out at hearings in Baker on December 3 and La Grande, December 4.

A hearing effecting freight and passenger rates on the Sumpter Valley

railroad is set for Baker, December 1, and a complaint lodged against the Sumpter Valley railroad by the White Pine Lumber company will be thrashed out before the commission at Baker on December 2.

Attendance at the Prineville grade schools this year, which is 212 surpasses all of former years and continues to grow.

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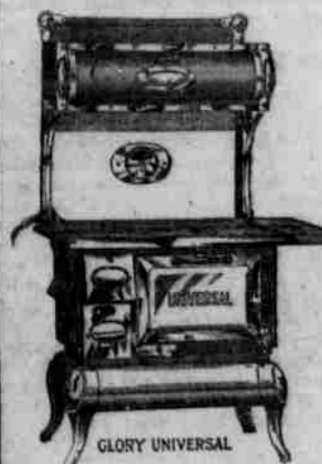
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