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OF COURSE IT'S HIGHER

WOOD FOR PAPER COSTS MORE

\$20,000,000, it is Said--The Publisher Pays Much More for His Stock Now Than a Year Ago.

Today there is a general complaint among publishers that printing paper is constantly growing dearer. In the middle west many local papers are raising their subscription price 50 per cent in order to pay for the paper. From the time when Gutenberg first used movable type, made of wood, to the present day of metropolitan papers, some of which consume the product of acres of spruce in a single edition, printing has in very large degree depended upon the forest.

In the face of a threatened shortage of timber, the amount of wood consumed each year for pulp has increased since 1899 from two million to three and a half million cords. The year 1900 marked an increase of 93,000 cords in the imports of pulpwood, the highest average value per cord for all kinds, and a consumption greater by 469,053 cords than that of any previous year.

Spruce, the wood from which in 1899 three-fourth of the pulp was manufactured, is still the leading wood, but it now produces a little less than 70 per cent of the total. How well spruce is suited to the manufacture of pulp is shown by the fact that during a period in which the total quantity of wood used has doubled and many new woods have been introduced, the proportion of spruce pulpwood has remained nearly constant in spite of the drains upon the spruce forests for other purposes. During this time three different woods, from widely separated regions, have in turn held the rank of leader in the lumber supply.

Since 1899 poplar, which for years was used in connection with spruce to the exclusion of all other paper woods, has increased in total quantity less than 100,000 cords, and is now outranked by hemlock. Pine, balsam, and cottonwood are used in much smaller quantities.

New York alone consumes each year over a million and a quarter cords of wood in the manufacture of pulp, or more than twice as much as Maine, which ranks next. Wisconsin, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and Michigan follow in the order given. Sixty per cent of the wood used in New York was imported from elsewhere, and even so the supply appears to be waning, since the total consumption for the state shows a small decrease since 1905, whereas the other states named have all increased their consumption. Other states important in the production of pulp are Massachusetts, Minnesota, Ohio, Oregon, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia.

The average cost of pulp delivered at the mill was \$7.21. The total value of the wood consumed in 1906 was \$24,400,000. The chief item determining the price of paper is the cost of pulp. An example of the increased price of paper is found in the case of a publisher of a daily paper in the Middle West, who recently paid \$1,200 for a carload of paper. The same quantity and grade of paper cost a year ago but \$800.

The chemical processes of paper making, which better preserves the wood fiber, are gaining over the mechanical process. In 1899, 65 per cent of the wood was reduced by mechanical process; in 1906, less than 50 per cent.

All importations of wood for pulp comes from Canada, and comprised, in 1906, 739,000 cords, nearly all of which was spruce. Four and a half million dollars' worth of pulp was imported in

1906, a slight falling off from 1905. Circular 120 of the Forest Service contains a discussion of the consumption of pulpwood in 1906, based on statistics gathered by the Bureau of Census and the Forest Service. The pamphlet can be had upon application to the Forester, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Silicia Sand is Wanted.

Portland, December 30.—To the editor: You have printed articles at different times relative to the discovery of large bodies of silicia sand, and the Oregon Development League desires to present \$100 to any reader of your paper or any citizen of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana or California, who will find this sand to fill the requirements demanded by the Columbia Steel Works of this city, who have made this offer through the league:

"We will take one hundred tons each month of silicia sand, 98 per cent pure silicia and free from iron oxides, delivered at Portland at not to exceed \$6 per ton, and we will pay \$100 in cash to the discoverer."

Silicia sand is now being shipped to Portland and other iron and steel manufacturing centers of the Pacific Coast from Minnesota. It has been frequently reported that large quantities of pure silicia have been discovered, and the community that "makes good" in this instance has a greater source of revenue than gold or copper mines, lumber mills, or factories of any kind, for when a dependable quality of silicia sand is found in quantities sufficient to supply the demand, all the iron works from the gulf of California to Alaska, and from the Rocky Mountains west, will be customers. It may just as well be given to the public now as later that the steel trust and another combination of multi-millionaires engaged in the production of iron and steel are investigating different points on the Pacific coast with the idea of building another Pittsburg.

Don't worry about the present freight rate. The discovery of a large quantity of silicia sand would make a low rate necessary remember that the sand now comes from Minnesota. This is your opportunity. Send a sample to your nearest assayer to be sure you have the goods.

The year 1907 breaks all records in Portland, and what is true here is an index in a proportionate degree of every place between the Rocky mountains and the Pacific ocean, for this great section is the most prosperous part of America, and will continue to be. The increase in manufactured products has been 30 per cent; the sales of merchandise are considerably greater than in 1906. No year has brought so great an immigration. Postal receipts, exports and imports, the products from the farm and dairy, and those from the orchard, and every other resource by which prosperity can be pulsed, prove an unprecedented growth, and if we will only shake off this temporary impulse to hedge, 1908 can be made a still greater year.

December comes and ends the year. And gold is at a premium. Folks will enjoy the Christmas cheer; Buy goods with paper medium. Though falling banks and hold-up men. Keep people alert and wary. Yet ye'll be treated well ye ken. At Palmateer's Confectionery. L. J. PALMATEER, Prop.

Miss Sheldon will give lessons in water colors and pastel. Lessons given in classes or individually. Corner Fir and Eighth streets. Independence 'phone 356.

Have you seen Baird's top notch selection of "the swell thing" in stationery, all the way from 10 cents to \$2.50. Don't miss it.

THEY NEED HELP NOW

A CALL FOR \$200,000.

This Amount is Need to Help the Families of the 350 Miners Killed in a Mine Explosion.

At Monongah, West Virginia, five miles from Fairmont, at 10:30 a. m., Friday, December 6, 1907, an explosion in Mine No. 6 and Mine No. 8 of the Fairmont Coal Company occurred, resulting in the death of approximately 350 employees.

Monongah is a mining town of about 3,000 inhabitants. This disaster has destroyed almost one-half of its bread-winners. The other half is composed of the employees of two other mines of the same company, and of the usual stores, etc., which go to make up a purely mining community.

Fully 250 widows and 1,000 children are left without any means of support. The most of these families live in the company's houses at Monongah, the remaining ones in various countries of Europe. The company has generously declared that the families occupying their houses may remain until other provision is made for them, but operations cannot be resumed at the damaged mines until these houses are available for the new force. Many of the resident families will want to return to their relatives in their native countries in Europe. The other resident families must seek a community in which they can earn a livelihood.

Aid must be given these families to reach their new abodes and to help them establish themselves; and the families living abroad must be provided for until they can adjust themselves to their new conditions.

As near as can be determined at this time almost \$50,000 from all sources has been subscribed. Upon the basis of \$300 for each widow, and \$100 for each child under 16 years of age, \$175,000 will be required. At least \$25,000 additional will be needed to provide, on relatively the same basis, for the aged dependents of the unmarried victims, the many now unborn children and the undoubted accessions to the married victims' list when complete information has been received.

The committee feels that a basis lower than the above will not be adequate to properly care for the needs of the bereaved ones, and a total of \$200,000 will therefore be required to carry out the relief work on this basis.

The immediate needs of the resident are being amply met by the company and a committee of women from Fairmont and Monongah.

The committee begs to express its profound gratitude for the contributions already so generously made, and to earnestly appeal for the future assistance that it feels is so badly needed.

The magnitude of this disaster is too great for West Virginia to alone render all the help required. It commands national attention, and the committee feels assured that its appeal will be heard, and responded to, by the nation.

All checks should be made payable to the Monongah Mines Relief Committee, J. E. Sands, Treasurer, Fairmont, W. Va., and they and all cash contributions should be sent to him.

Sunday dinner is only 25 cents at both tables at Hotel Bigelow, at which time will be served chicken and everything else good to eat. The new hotel is getting the patronage it deserves and our citizens should give the new landlord every encouragement possible.

See. Try the Independent telephone for long distance.

Walnuts in Oregon.

Walnut raising in this state being an established fact, and it remains now for the people of this valley, as growers, to make it the most profitable, as it is one that is easily handled and always will give remunerative prices. This season has shown what the tree can do with its proper amount of cultivation. Yamhill county has proved itself adapted, the Prince orchard yielding 14 tons, which found a ready market at 18 cents per pound. Trees on the Abe Laughlin farm near Carlton are bearing at four years old this season and from now on they will increase their productiveness. But let it be understood that his have been cultivated with his prune trees in the same ground. The fact is all orchards should be cultivated to make them a success. There are many people who plant trees—and walnuts especially—with the expectation that this is all that is required, and leave the raising to nature and its elements. The result is easily known. It remains now for Washington county to prove herself equal to her sister county, for she has the advantage of new land. She can take the lead now in potatoes and other roots, judging by what one can see in the real estate offices on exhibit and at the fairs. Fruit is the coming industry just as much as dairying in this county. Walnuts are justly adapted to this climate and should be planted. Yes, plant groves for the timber; plant chestnuts, they are a profitable crop and as healthy a nut as the walnut. Just look at the grapes of this county. They can't be beat anywhere in the valley. Look at the fine wines that are made from them. Our hills are adapted for their growth. Plant orchards. Look at the price of our apples and pears in the New York market and then say it don't pay to bother with fruit raising. Leave wheat raising alone to that great empire east of the mountains and give the land a rest in this valley by rotation of crops, and raise fruit. That will be fruit in the markets of the world. Quit raising hops and plant something that is more stable and more certain of price. Plant something that will keep—plant walnuts.

In regard to overdoing the walnut raising, I will say that it is a mistake, for should there be a surplus they can be converted into an oil almost equal to olive oil, and which now in France is being used as a substitute for that made from the olives. California raises 6400 tons, I believe. Oregon can raise half that amount, or as much, and still there will be a market, as only the best will then be put on the market for eating purposes, and mills perhaps will be made to convert the inferior product to a superior one. English filberts should be raised as well; they are valuable. ALBERT O. YATES.

GRANDMA WOOD DEAD

WAS 120 YEARS OLD.

Lived to See Five Hours of the New Year--Passed Away Without Pain, Just Fell Asleep.



"Grandma" Wood has at last found the rest she has been longing for, and on New Year's morning at 5 o'clock, she folded her tired and wrinkled hands and went to sleep. Her death has been expected for a long time, and the wonder is that she clung to life so long.

More than fifty years ago, at which time Mrs. Wood considered herself an old woman, she made with her own hands a winding sheet, such as were used in olden times to wrap about the dead when laid in the tomb, and requested that it be used when she died to wrap her body in. She left word that no hearse should be used at her funeral, and in its stead a "democrat" wagon, as she called it, should be used to convey her remains to their last resting place. Over that coffin, on its way to the tomb, was to be thrown a large quilt which she made herself. She also asked that the hymn, "Sweet Hour of Prayer," be sung by the choir at the funeral services at the house, and as her body was being lowered to its last resting place, "Weep Not When I Am Gone," be sung. The clothes in which she was laid out in were made by her own hands, every detail, even to who should lay her out and the kind and maker of her coffin, was arranged for by herself, and all was complied with as far as possible. The cap on her head was sent to her by a

friend in Colorado two years ago, and the silk stockings she wore had been kept by her for this event for twenty-four years.

About midnight of the closing of 1907, when the bells were ringing out a welcome to the new year, Mrs. Reynolds went to the bedside of her mother and asked if the noise disturbed her, and was told that it did not. At 5 o'clock she was dead.

For some time past the old lady had had a firm belief that she would die on New Year's day, and expressed this belief to her daughter several times. She inquired anxiously about the condition of the banks, in one of which she had deposited money several years ago to defray the expense of her burial, and in many ways seemed to take an interest in what was taking place about her up to the day of her death, and was conscious and in her right mind up to the last moment.

Mary Ramsey Woods was born as Mary Ramsey on May 20, 1787. In her 121st year, she was still quite active and maintained a lively interest in the world and its doings. Daily she walked about the garden or sat upon the porch in sunny weather to chat with neighbors, to see, or to live over in memory scenes of long ago. And what a memory was hers! She was a tiny maid when the French revolution was dyeing the gutters of Paris red; she was a laughing schoolgirl of seven when Tennessee was admitted as a state to the union; she was a blushing bride when the great Napoleon ceded Louisiana to the United States, and a proud young mother when Louis and Clark tramped over a continent "to where rolls the Oregon." And she well remembered her father taking down his old gun, shouldering his blankets and going out to fight the battles of his country in the war of 1812.

Though probably the oldest woman in the world, her intellect was still bright and keen, as is shown by the fact that this last summer her testimony decided a lawsuit and settled the title to property which was deeded over forty years ago. Her answers were to the point and efforts to confuse her were unavailing. She testified regarding minute details, showing that the years had not dulled her recollection.

One can scarcely realize the marvelous changes that have taken place in the world during Mrs. Woods' eventful life. When she was a child people literally lived the "simple life," none of

Continued on Fifth Page.

HAMILTON-BROWN SHOES

There's a lot of satisfaction in a shoe which after month's of wear, needs only polish to 'look like new.' You will find comfort, ease and profit in the HAMILTON-BROWN SHOES.

Your children will want something pretty and good. Come and see our SCHOOL SHOES, no better made. No better can be made. Our guarantee goes with every pair.

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is the finest in the county.

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The old Reliable Corner Grocery and Shoe Store

