

Lumber Market Soars As Boom Reaches Into New Historic Economic Highs

With the doldrums of the 1949 lumber market a vague memory this booming summer of 1950, lumber prices have reached an unprecedented high in the history of the Paul Bunyan industry, and where it's going to stop is not known yet.

It's the hottest lumber market in history and will bring more than \$1½ billion in new cash into Washington and Oregon this year. Production is at a new high, and lumber prices are at an all-time high.

70 per cent above the "depression" 1949 high are 2x4's for frames of the nation's homes. Common lumber is up 15 per cent above the last highest historical peak in 1949.

At the present clears such as flooring, siding and other finishing lumber, is only 10 per cent below the 1948 high, and going up.

How many people are profiting from the boom? Directly 170,000 wage earners are employed in the forest industry in Oregon and Washington. Many more of course are secondarily benefited by the boom.

Why the boom? It comes on the tail-end of a great building boom starting in April and continuing throughout May and June—and mostly of wood construction.

Plywood, too, is jumping daily and demand is seemingly unlimited which is good news for those men and women employed directly and indirectly in this burgeoning timber manufacturing process.

The northwest timber industry is sawing up to the hilt with over four billion board feet of lumber turned out in the first five months of 1950, or more than 81 million feet more than in 1949.

The average mill is very much in the black; but the northwest lumber worker, too, is on the gravy train, as he is the highest paid worker in the nation.

What does it mean to the average new house in increased cost? According to lumber spokesmen it means a raise of from \$150.00 to \$200.00.

What are Lumber Prices? The authoritative Crow's Pacific Coast Lumber Digest lists No. 2 and better fir 2x4s f. o. b. mill in car lots for the rail market at \$75-\$76 a 1000 board feet in random lengths. Early last year this item (with more upper grades in the shipments) dropped as low as \$45.46. Current price is about \$4 above the previous peak in late summer 1948. That's an example of common grades now at record highs. In special instances prices have been even higher.

As to the clears that still are trailing:

The 1948 price on 1x4 vertical grain fir flooring peaked at \$180 at the mill for B&Btr grade, \$175 for C and \$160 for the low-grade D. During the 1949 low it was \$145, \$140, and \$75. Now it has climbed only partially back to \$150-\$160, \$145-\$150 and \$95-\$105.



Active interest in a Parent-Teachers association is shaping up and despite some belief in some quarters that affiliation with a state and national group, such as the PTA is not so good, most of the younger women are definitely interested in a PTA. We view this sudden school awareness as a healthy and fine sign, and think that nothing should come in the way of a group such as the Parent-Teachers. Myrtle Point, North Bend, other cities in the county have fine, active groups. Do you know much about your schools? Do you help any in making them function well and better? A PTA could help you help them. And the school board and school staffs are just as willing to cooperate on a PTA as anyone else.

Coos county get through another 4th of July without any serious injuries from firecrackers, roman candles, skyrockets, and the various other kinds of whirling derbies made of gunpowder. It appears that the legislature will be urged to ban all fireworks next session. After all, it's a Chinese custom, not American.

Dale Elliott told us that he saw only two flags up on Independence Day, the 4th of July to you. Just in case the whole point of the 4th of July has escaped, we have arranged to re-print the "Declaration of Independence" in this week's Sentinel in place of our customary editorial page. We think it high time we re-affirmed some of the principles of 1776.

A buyers' rush has started in various parts of the U. S. due to the Korean conflict, but much credit goes to Coquille for the fact that no undue buying bulge has been sighted in tires, batteries, sugar, so on. After all, if there is a war, you aren't going to drive your car very many miles, and rubber tires rot faster in the attic than they do on a car. Batteries, too, must be used. Sugar? Well, if rationing goes on, you are going to have to declare it, and then you won't get any more stamps, until it's gone.

We get amused periodically by the beating of the chest tactics of Coos county's largest city, North Bend. You'd think their census count meant something more than it does. Actually, Coquille is the hub of a rich and fertile agricultural area filled with thrifty, happy people, and if we added up our drawing area and contrasted it with North Bend's marshland, tears would come to the eyes of the boys on the bay. But we won't out of kindness to those kiddies who have to have something to brag about inasmuch as they don't have our incomparable weather, green grass lands, fatted kine, and lush hayfields.

(Continued on page 8)

Bank Calls Show Big Increase In Deposits, Loans

As of June 30, deposits of \$4,802,643 and loans of \$1,983,141 were reported for the Coquille branch of The First National Bank of Portland by S. H. Peterson, Jr., local manager.

On June 30, 1949, deposits were \$4,615,314 and loans \$1,747,076. The First National Bank of Portland, with 45 branches, reported June 30 deposits at \$478,766,582; loans at \$176,256,994 and total resources at \$518,679,679, according to F. N. Belgrano, Jr., president.

On June 30, 1949, deposits were \$458,205,572; loans, \$156,556,423; and total resources, \$497,187,407.

"The excellent earnings of The First National Bank of Portland made it possible for us to place in effect on July 1 increased interest rates for our savings depositors," Belgrano said.

Depositors now receive 1½ per cent interest on all savings accounts up to and including \$10,000 and one per cent interest on any amount in excess of \$10,000. The rates of interest previously paid by the bank were one per cent on the first \$5,000 and one-half per cent on any amount in excess of \$5,000, Belgrano pointed out.

"This increase in interest payments to savings depositors means an increase of 50 per cent to the small depositors who are saving for their security and independence," Belgrano added. "In addition, our customers benefit from the advantages of all-day banking, 10 a. m. to 6 p. m. including Saturday; constant improvement of existing banking offices and the opening of new branches such as the Industrial branch on Portland's northwest side, slated for completion this fall, which are designed to meet the financial needs of their area. These services exemplify what First National means when it says 'Let's Build Oregon Together.'"

Ice Cream Drive-In Scheduled For City

A new Coquille business is being started this week with an ice cream drive-in planned for the former Wernich land next to the Myrtle Lane Motel on North Taylor street.

Mr. and Mrs. James Ellery, formerly of Canby, Oregon, and son will arrive soon to start work on the new modern drive-in.

According to Mr. Ellery he chose Coquille because of its thriving business and cordial people.

MRS. GEORGE ADAMS HONORED BY EAGLES
Mrs. George Adams, "Mother" of the Oregon State Eagles' auxiliary, was honored by members of the Coquille auxiliary on Friday evening. The occasion was Mrs. Adams' birthday and a handkerchief shower was given in her honor.

Coquille Valley

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ALL READY FOR GIRL SCOUT DAY CAMP—Petite Deborah Hooker enjoyed her day's camping at the Boy and Girl Scout Fairview camp last week as a group prepared for the annual Coquille Girl Scout Day camp which starts Tuesday for two weeks. Held in beautiful Patterson Grove, one of the city's wooded parks, the Day Camp is open to both Girl Scouts and non-Scouts. A complete program is set up under the leaders and such Girl Scouts leaders as Mrs. Carl Hooker, pictured above, who will act as one of the camp counselors. (Sentinel Photo)

Work-Day Set For Swimming Pool Saturday, July 15th

A work-day Saturday, July 15th, has been called by the Coquille swimming pool committee headed by Chairman George Ulett at which time the bathhouses will be erected during the whole-day project.

A luncheon will be served in the junior auditorium of the Community building at noon by members of the Rotary club, original sponsors of the swimming pool.

Last Saturday a large group of Lions club members spent their work-day in piping the entire pool which is now ready for final work. Ulett said he hoped the pool would be ready for swimming by August 1st.

More Interest Due From First National

Increased interest rates for savings account depositors at The First National Bank of Portland will become effective July 1, it was announced Wednesday by President F. N. Belgrano, Jr. Depositors will receive 1½ per cent interest on all savings accounts up to and including \$10,000 and 1 per cent interest on any amount in excess of \$10,000. This action was taken by the board of directors at their regular June meeting on Wednesday. Belgrano stated that the new rate will apply to both new and existing accounts and that deposits made on or before July 1 will draw interest from July 1.

The rates of interest previously paid by the bank were 1 per cent on the first \$5,000 and ½ per cent on any amount in excess of \$5,000. He stated that the excellent earnings of The First National Bank of Portland have made it possible to increase the interest to savings depositors.

In Canada—Mr. and Mrs. Stan Sherwood and family are vacationing in Montana, Utah and Wyoming.

'Pioneering' Theme For Girl Scouts

"Pioneering" will be the theme for the Girl Scout Day camp which is scheduled for July 11, 12, 13 and July 18, 19 and 20, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. Activities planned for the six days will include out-of-door cooking, campcraft, nature quests, rope work, songs and games.

Coquille's beautiful campsite, Patterson's Grove, has had a thorough clean-up and new tables have been erected there in preparation for the day camp.

Mrs. Virgil Beaudette is camp director and members of the day camp committee are Mrs. Orlando Anderson, Mrs. Ralph Stuller, Mrs. Carl Hooker and Mrs. Wesley Robinson.

Eligible for the camp are all girls, scouts or non scouts, between the ages of 7 and 18 years. Registration forms are being mailed this week to all scouts. Additional forms may be obtained at the Coquille Public library. The completed forms may be left at the library or mailed to Mrs. Virgil Beaudette, 108 N. Moulton street, Coquille.

What's Buzzin'

July 11, 12, 13 and 18, 19, 20—Girl Scout Day Camp, Patterson Grove, 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.
Wed., July 12—Coquille Valley Garden Club meeting, City Hall, 8 p. m.

Sat., July 15—Work Day for Coquille Swimming Pool.

Sat., July 8—Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary regular meeting in Labor Temple.

Sun., July 16—Past Matrons and Patrons picnic at Bosserman's cottage. Potluck lunch 1:30 p. m.

To Return From East—Mr. and Mrs. Howard Crinklaw will return to Coquille this week from a trip east. Mr. Crinklaw flew to Detroit where he took delivery on a new car, then drove to Colorado where he picked up Mrs. Crinklaw who had been visiting her daughter there. The daughter with her baby are returning to Coquille with the Crinklows.

Drive-In Theatre To Be Ready For Opening Soon

Coquille Valley's newest addition to the recreational life of the people, the Myrtle Lane Drive-In Theatre, will be ready to open by the middle of July. Claver and Wood, Coquille theatre men, said today.

The drive-in which features the latest in modern drive-in theatre equipment, will have sound systems to accommodate four hundred cars, the local theatre men said.

The screen which is one of the most modern is now being painted. It is all-metal, and gives a perfect reproduction, according to film technicians.

A modern concession stand will serve snacks and soft drinks.

Also a feature of the new Myrtle Lane Drive-In is a "moon" light which will make it easy for people to walk to the rest rooms or concessions stands along the pathway provided. The new light does not reflect on the screen and hence does not interfere with the film audience's enjoyment.

Bids Opened For Curry Electric Line

The Bonneville Power administration opened bids in Portland, June 30, 1950, on Invitation No. 5214 for clearing the right-of-way on the Port Orford-Gold Beach 115 kv transmission line. The following bids were received: Peterson Engineering Co., San Francisco, California, \$163,675; R & R Construction Co., Tillamook, Oregon, \$223,475; M. A. Pithound, Vancouver, Washington, \$226,300; and J. M. Purcell Construction Co., Tucson, Arizona, \$237,800. Bids are now being studied prior to award of contract.

Back From Medford — Mrs. Paul Prince returned Wednesday from Medford where she had spent several days.

S. Sgt. William J. Goodwin, Coquille Airman, Meets Death in Sky Over Korea

First casualty of the Korean war for this area, and one of the first among American military men, was S. Sgt. William J. Goodwin who met death when the C54 bomber on which he was a turret gunner was engaged in action over the Asiatic battlefield on June 28th.

Coquille Firemen Take Instruction

Coquille firemen who attended the Oregon Fire Institute June 19-24 at Oak Grove, received advanced instruction in fire-fighting methods.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Howe and children stayed in Oregon City at the home of Mr. Howe's sister, Dr. and Mrs. L. J. Bonnicksen.

Mrs. Swearingen entrained at Portland for a three months' visit with relatives in the East.

Budget Hearing Gets 7 Taxpayers Out To Meeting

A lot of people, 65 of them, didn't like the school budget when it was put up to vote June 26, but only seven people turned out to the public hearing to discuss the 1950-51 budget and how it could be trimmed.

With all patrons attending the hearing at Washington grammar school Friday night of the opinion that the budget should be trimmed, the district budget committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R. N. Crawford cut out all improvement items from the budget except the asphalt paving at the new elementary school near Sanford Heights.

Items removed included asphalt-paving and painting outside concrete at the high school; the erection of bleachers and a cyclone fence at the football field, and one room of seating at the junior high school.

These budget expenses amounted to \$12,836.00. Three of the deleted improvements would have been matched with funds from the anticipated sale of school property, and consequently \$9,000 was removed from the anticipated receipts as well.

Total amount of money to be raised by taxation was reduced by \$4836.00.

According to Supt. of School Ray Hunsaker the budget will require a levy close to that of the rural school district. "Only those districts under the rural school levy which are not adding facilities or major alterations and are paying their teachers in the county minimum schedule are able to operate on the minimum rural school district levy comparable to that of Coquille. This revised budget includes \$45,000 which is the third and last issue of the serial levy voted in 1948 for construction purposes. This means that Coquille will find itself without one cent of bonded indebtedness and a new school completely paid for," Hunsaker further stated.

The next vote on the altered budget will be on Wednesday, July 26th, from 3 p. m. daylight time to 9 p. m. daylight time.

The complete budget is being published again this week and on July 20th in The Sentinel.

Ralph Cochran Plans Ice Cream Store

A modern down-town ice cream store with a complete line of assorted varieties of ice creams is the plan of Ralph Cochran of Ralph's Flowers who this week started remodeling to make room for the new store.

Cochran is dividing the present Ralph's Flowers building into two separate stores, one of which will house the ice cream business, and the other the flower shop.

The store will be modern to the utmost degree, Cochran said, with a solid concrete flooring, new modern windows, and an entirely new re-decorating job throughout.

SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION BECOMES EFFECTIVE

The consolidation of the Myrtle Point and Catching Creek schools became effective July 1 as the result of a favorable vote cast on June 29 by voters of the two districts.

Leave For California — Mr. and Mrs. Jack Anglin left last week for Ontario, Calif., where they will make their home.

Sgt. Goodwin who was well known in Coquille, and Coos county had re-enlisted in the U. S. army air forces in 1948 after working for several years after World War II as a core feeder in the plywood division of the Coos Bay Lumber company plant in Coquille.

Active in veteran affairs, Goodwin had been a promoter of the Legion Post No. 36 club rooms, and was active in the drum and bugle corps and other activities.

A veteran of World War II with an outstanding record, Sgt. Goodwin held the American Theatre ribbon with five bronze stars, the purple heart, four campaign stars, the air medal, and European theatre ribbon with medals. He was a turret gunner handling 50 caliber guns on a B24 and saw fifteen missions over occupied enemy territory.

On one of his last missions over Yugoslavia on August 18, 1944, his plane was shot down and he was put in a German army prison.

With another soldier prisoner and the help of the Yugoslavia Checkos, an underground group of guerrillas, he escaped the German army prison. He had been injured seriously in the plane crash.

In Europe he took part in the campaigns and battles of Rome-Arno, Southern France, Central Europe, and the entire air offensive in Europe. In all he spent two years and nine months in Europe, and was discharged on Oct. 25, 1945.

Before entering the service for World War II, he had been state of Washington 100-yard dash champion and boxing champion for the high schools of that state.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil C. Goodwin were Coquille and Riverton residents and his brother, Arthur Goodwin, is well known in Coquille and now lives in Tacoma. He was single.

He was born Sept. 28, 1921, at Jonesboro, Arkansas. His death came but two months before he was due to come to the United States after the completion of two years of foreign service.

City Budget Gets Nod By Two Votes

Coquille made city history Friday! The budget for the 1950-51 fiscal year passed by a majority of two votes. Total vote cast was 72 for to 70 votes against the proposed budget.

The city budget will exceed the six per cent limitation by a total of \$18,830.24. It includes two new items this year, one a \$1500 sum for operating the new swimming pool when it is turned over to the city; and a sum of \$1500 to pay for a new water supply survey which is being considered.

Two elections were needed in 1949 to pass the 1949-50 budget.

'Tax School' Slated For Coquille

Dates for holding the in-service training for county assessors, have been set for September by the assessment and taxation division of the state tax commission. There will be four "schools" this year, at Baker, Burns, Coquille and Portland and they have been distributed so they can be conveniently reached by the assessors.

This method of keeping assessing officers advised of essential matters of particular importance to their official duties, has been authorized by the legislature, but while the schools are held for the express purpose of benefiting the assessors there is no compulsion to attend. State appraisal engineers will give lectures on methods of appraising lots, depreciation, industrial appraisals and appraisals of stocks in trade.

Assessors expected to attend the Coquille meetings are Charles W. Forrest, Coos; George W. Sutton, Curry; Ned Dixon, Douglas; Merl E. Griffin, Jackson; Otis W. Mettler, Klamath; George A. Stock, Lane, and W. H. Osborn, Lincoln.

Today's Tickler

Buried treasure: The first husband a woman is always bragging about to her second.