

THE YOUNG CITY OF POWERS SHOWS PHENOMENAL GROWTH

On the second day of May, 1916, the town of Powers was one year old. At this time its population, according to Polk's county directory, exceeded 1,500.

Powers is located on the south fork of the Coquille River, 39 miles from Coquille, and at the end of the new Coos Bay line. The town was conceived and started by the Smith-Powers Logging company, and it is owing to their enterprise that it has become what it is, a beautiful little city with permanent business structures and attractive residences.

The town is supported entirely by the activities of the company who carry on logging operations here on perhaps as large a scale as can be found in the Northwest, if not in the world.

Between 600 and 700 men are employed here the year round, pushing branch lines out into the vast forest of Port Orford white cedar which surrounds the town and in taking out this timber in the shape of logs to be shipped to the Smith mill at Marshfield where it is converted into lumber. About 80 carloads of logs a day are shipped from this little town that when sawed into lumber amount to from ten to twelve million feet a month. Some idea of the extent of these logging operations may be had from the fact that they supply all the logs used at the Smith mill, which is one of the largest sawmills in existence.

Nineteen miles of railroad are at present in operation above Powers solely for the purpose of bringing logs cut of the woods. This mileage is divided into three tracks, two going up on the east side of the river and one

on the west. Switch-backs are employed in reaching the top of these forest-clad ridges and on one of these lines which goes to the top of Eden ridge, five switch-backs are used and the track goes up 3,000 feet in three miles. Most of the track is laid on a six per cent grade but in some places it is as steep as eight per cent, while on the curves it is seldom more than four per cent.

The logs are hauled from the hillside and loaded onto the cars with the aid of donkey engines, about 50 of which are in use throughout the woods. In places the hauls by this method are unbelievably long and logs one and one-half miles from the track are drawn through the woods until they come to the waiting cars. When the haul is exceedingly long it becomes necessary to relay them and on the longest ones as many as three donkeys are used.

While a great deal of this track is only of temporary value and sooner or later must be taken up, there is nothing temporary about its construction. Regulation 90-pound steel is used and the track laid has all the semblance of permanency. This is done because the heavy traffic and the topography of the country tapped would make any other kind of a track dangerous. In places deep cuts are made and as many as 100,000 yards of rock have been taken from a single cut on these roads, to lessen the length of the haul. A difficulty encountered in this part of the work is the deteriorating nature of the rock which makes it necessary to have the cut much wider at the top than at the

grade of the roadbed. In speaking of the probable life of the town, A. H. Powers, of the Smith-Powers Logging company, said: "We have timber enough to keep our camps busy for 75 or 100 years on the present scale." And after one has gone up into the woods along the logging road and looked out over the miles of

ground that rich why he didn't work it and become wealthy. He said he didn't want to become wealthy. He said he could kill a deer any time he needed meat, that he had all the fish he needed for the catching and that his land was fertile so that he could raise all the potatoes he needed and the gold dust was always there and

town. It is just below the forks of the Sixes river. In early days the miners skimmed the coarsest gold from these bars. Now we are saving most of the values they failed to secure. "In those days the miners were termed white iron and which they termed white iron and which they

about 30,000 inches of water and 1,000 feet of sluice boxes. I am using rifles and coconut fibre in my sluice boxes to catch the gold. Here is a tablespoonful of the coarse gold. You will notice that it looks like bran. It is flat and never occurs in shot form as the coarse gold found at Jacksonville.

Eventually Curry county's mineral resources will be mined in a large way and Curry county will surprise the world with the extent and value of its mineral wealth."

Gives Advice to Managers

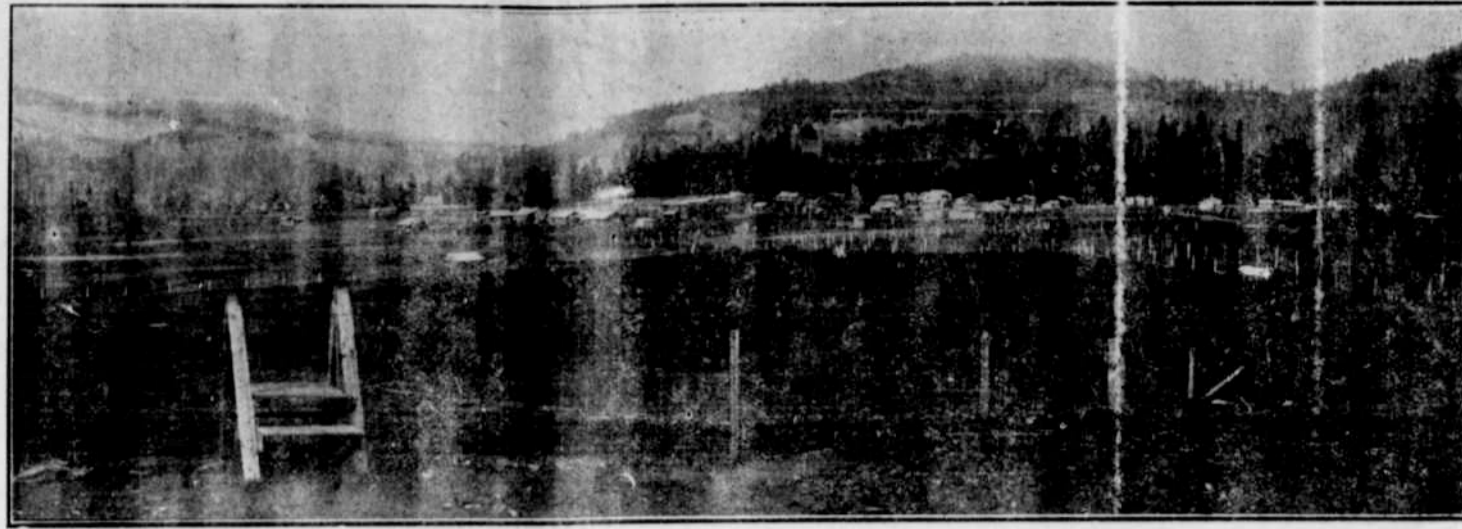
William A. Brady delivered an address at the Motion Picture convention in Chicago last week in which there is much sound advice to the producers of films and the managers of theatres, if their business is to be maintained upon a high plane, and become an agency for good. Agitation for censorship is the outgrowth of pictures of an improper nature. Unless the makers of films turn their efforts in the right direction, they can expect a censorship more rigorous than any yet attempted, notwithstanding the fact that the acts of censors in some cities and states have been unreasonable.

In the motion picture, there is a tremendous possibility for good. Its power should not be wasted or permitted to become an agency of evil. Mr. Brady is on the right track. He is acting for the best interests of the producers and the public, when he says:

"Ostracise the man who makes an indecent picture. Drive him out of the industry. Take him and his filthy stuff and bury them. Refuse to play suggestive, immoral, dirty pictures and then, well, the business will reach the stage to which it is entitled.

"The program is the very spine of your industry. Wreck the program and like Sampson, you pull the temple down upon yourself.

"Every screen is a means to vast exploitation power. You men and your creations are the medium of wide distribution of opinion than even the newspaper. Put things on your screen that you want your mother and daughter to see. Don't play a picture that is not fit for your own sister. Cleanse yourself, then the motion picture becomes the power it was destined to become."



Birdseye View of the City of Powers as it is Today

heavily-timbered hills, just the edge of which has been penetrated by the Smith-Powers company, one can see that Mr. Powers is not speaking without grounds for his statements.

Another industry which may become important to Powers is mining. Not a great deal has so far been done along this line, although it is known that both coal and gold exist in this locality.

Not a great distance from Powers is the Sixes river country in Curry county, which is already famous for its mining. The following is an interview with C. C. Inman, of the Hydro-Sixes mine, by Fred Lockley, in which he speaks of the possibility of rail connection between that country and Powers:

"I had heard of the richness of Curry county when I was in Goldfield and Tonopah," said Mr. Inman. "I decided to see for myself and so I came up here to look the field over. I heard there was good ground on the upper Sixes, so I visited a rancher on the upper river and asked him as to the placer prospects around there. He told me that he had some very rich placer ground on his ranch and that he could get 50 cents in coarse gold to the pan. Of course you know that to take 50 cents to the pan you must have very rich ground.

"I had been in the mining business too long to believe any fairy stories of that kind. I asked him if he had

was just as if it were in the bank.

"He said he put in about a month every year washing out what he needed for his yearly expenses. Well, that sounded too good to be true, so I asked him to show me the ground from which he could wash out 50 cents a pan. I thought I had him there, but he got his shovel and gold pan and we went out to the bar and he threw a shovelful of dirt in the pan and panned it and sure enough there was a long strip of coarse gold dust in the pan, at least 50 cents' worth and probably more. I asked him to wash another pan full. He did so and that, too, was rich.

"Then I asked him to let me try a pan full. I suspected that he had a hump of gravel that he had salted, so I went to another place and dug where the gravel and sand had not been disturbed. I panned a pan full and I could hardly believe my eyes, for I could find richer ground than he had been working. I panned in different places but it all ran well. I secured an option on his place and sold it to the Sixes Mining company and they are making very satisfactory clean-ups. They have no stock for sale, which is usually an evidence that a claim is rich.

"I secured 480 acres further up the river which I am now developing. We are mining at the site of the old town of Sixes, founded in 1856, and later mined by Chinamen and called China-

threw away. We call it platinum and get from \$80 to \$100 an ounce for it. Or account of the war, little or no platinum is coming from the Ural mountains in Russia or in Siberia, so the price is high. Platinum usually occurs with osmium, iridium and iron. The old-time miners in throwing away this 'white iron' and saving the gold dust threw away at least \$6 for every one they saved. Today Curry county is furnishing the bulk of the platinum being sold.

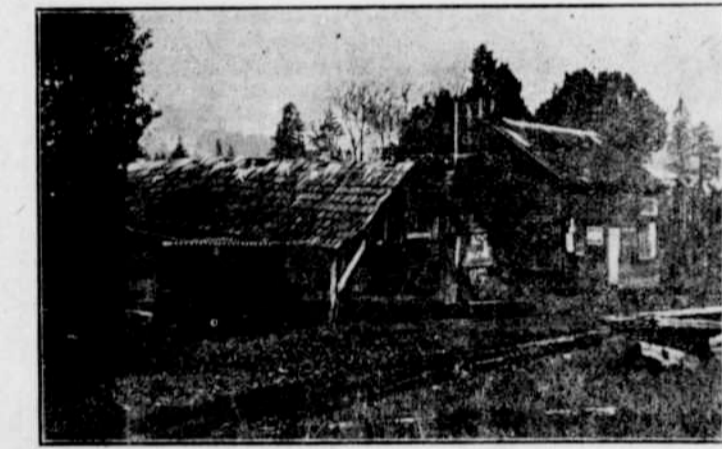
"For years the placer miners have noticed in the sluice boxes heavy brown iron nuggets ranging in size from a grain of wheat to the size of a bean. They have thrown these away as of no value. About a year ago a greenhorn in the mining business ground up in a mortar several of these iron nuggets and upon panning them discovered free gold and platinum. It is a sulphide of iron and is rich in platinum and gold.

"The Curry county black sand beaches are famous for their flour gold, which is too light to be saved by the ordinary processes. Mixed with this black sand is a large quantity of platinum caused by the erosion and disintegration of the iron sulphides. From the mouth of the Sixes to the mouth of Elk river there are countless tons of black sand along the beach covered over in most places with ordinary gray sand.

"On my claim of 480 acres I have

"Within a year we expect the railroad to be extended from Powers down to Eckley and on down the Sixes to tap the splendid body of Port Orford cedar along the Sixes river. I believe this road will go on down the coast to Eureka, connecting with the road from San Francisco there. When the road comes down the Sixes it will wonderfully stimulate the mining industry of Curry county.

"Along the Sixes river the mother formation is myrtle. Through this formation there are frequent dikes or intrusions of iron sulphides in the form of hematite of iron which carry high values in iron and platinum.



Where Powers was Built



Powers' New \$17,000 School House

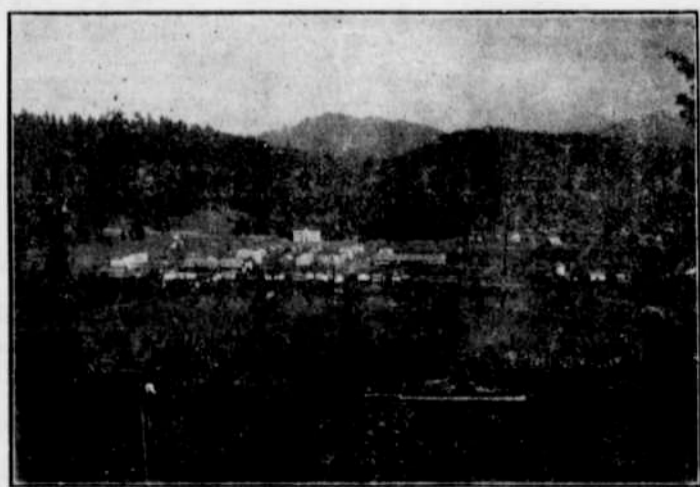
DON'T FORGET POWERS

When seeing Coos County, remember to visit POWERS, the youngest city in Southwestern Oregon and with the largest per capita pay roll. Powers is the terminus of the new railroad and was a year old the 2nd day of May, 1916.

Population 1500

Port Orford Cedar

Payroll \$52,000 a Month



If you want Good Hunting
Come to Powers

Powers lies in the heart of the great forest of Port Orford White Cedar for which Coos and Curry counties are justly famous. From 10 to 12 million feet of logs are shipped from this town every month and there is enough standing timber tributary to the city to insure this output for 50 or 75 years.

MINING

Powers has many valuable mineral resources of her own and is the gateway to the rich mining districts of Curry County.



See Logging Camps in Action
Come to Powers

IN THE MIDST OF THE BIG TIMBER