

Two carloads of pine stumps on way to Florida for testing

By Phil F. Bregan
Bulletin Staff Writer

Pilot operations in connection with the study of the feasibility of harvesting some two million tons of old pine stumps are nearing an end, with two carloads of the resin-laden material now en route from Bend to Pensacola, Fla. The stumps were shipped yesterday to the southern testing laboratories of the Newport Industries Division, Heyden Newport Chemical Corporation.

The aged stumps for the pilot study of their chemicals were obtained from various areas of the Deschutes, Fremont and Winema National Forests, and represented old stands in The Coyote Springs area, just west of Bend, and the Bessie Butte country south of Bend. Other stumps for the laboratory tests were obtained from Finley Butte, Quartz Mountain and Shellock Draw.

Earlier this year, Newport Industries purchased from the U.S. Forest Service two million tons of pine stumps in this region. The

present work is a pilot study of a test relative to the feasibility of harvesting the stumps for their chemicals. The economics of the proposed harvest are being studied, as are shipping costs. The tests of the stumpwood in the Pensacola and other laboratories will determine whether the type and amount of the resin will justify the harvest of the stumpage under contract from the forest service.

Should the southern company find the project feasible, a multi-million dollar extraction plant will be established in the Bend-Klamath Falls area. This plant would be started by 1966 and placed in operation by the end of 1968.

J. H. Boatman, Heyden Newport Chemical Corporation forester who has been in charge of the local pilot project, said some problems have been encountered. The major problem is the "toughness" of the root systems of the old pines. Stumps can easily be removed, but the intertwined roots, some of them woven

around lava rocks, post a bit of a problem which may show up in increased harvest costs.

Stumpwood was obtained from the various areas, to determine whether the chemical content varies from place to place, in relation to soil, moisture or exposure.

Boatman was making ready today to return to his home in DeQuincy, La. Don Brown, Newport Industries woods superintendent, has already left for his home in Louisiana.

Action sought on old station

Special to The Bulletin

PRINEVILLE — City fathers have taken note of the vacant service station at the corner of Third and Main Streets, and at their behest a letter has been sent to the Shell Oil Company offices, Seattle, requesting that the company remove the long-empty filling station.

The station, located at the central corner of downtown Prineville, was discussed at a recent council meeting.

Some months ago, the downtown station business was moved to a larger station on West Third Street. In ensuing days, the former driveways into the station

began to be used as a free parking lot.

In other city business, councilmen have approved a proposal by the city fire department that the city's old Diamond-T fire truck be renovated in lieu of the purchase of a new fire truck.

It is planned to install a thousand-gallon tank on the old truck, purchased by the city in 1951. The city currently owns three large pumps and fire trucks and three pieces of auxiliary equipment.

Looking for a car? Check Classification No. 100 for best results.

Simpson tells plans for expansion, improvements

SEATTLE (UPI) — Simpson Timber Co. today announced plans for a \$21 million plant expansion and improvement program in its Washington, Oregon and California forest products operations.

C. H. Bacon, Jr., president, announced \$10 million will be spent on new construction and modernization this year and another \$11 million will be invested in Simpson's lumber, plywood, chemical and wood fiber production in 1964, 1965 and 1966.

Bacon said the company's emphasis on modernized production will result in the closing of its Portland plylock plywood plant on Aug. 31.

This oldest plant in the softwood plywood industry was built in 1905 and has been operated by Simpson since its acquisition of the M and M Wood Working

Co. in 1956.

Bacon said the Portland plywood operation no longer meets the economic requirements of competition in the plywood business.

Most of the \$10 million being invested this year is for complete dry lumber manufacturing plant facilities and complete new veneer processing facilities at Shelton, Wash., and expanded plywood production capacity at Klamath and Eureka, Calif.

Lumber and veneer plants under construction in Shelton will form one of the largest all-wood manufacturing concentrations in the United States.

Also on the company's 1964 construction schedule are plywood processing improvements at Albany, Lyons and Idanha, Ore., and at Eureka and Klamath, Calif. Chemical division expansion is planned at Portland.

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