

LUMBER EMPLOYMENT SHOWS FURTHER DECLINE

Portland, May 28.—(Special)—Further and sharp decline in the demand for help from nearly all industries on the West Coast was noted at employment centers last week and labor turnover reached the lowest point of the season, according to the 4L weekly employment service letter published here today. Reports from the various fir logging districts indicate that many companies are preparing for a shutdown in the near future.

Employment in the pine districts east of the Cascades has reached seasonal height, the letter states, and there will be little new work offered there until harvest begins. Condensed reports from the various centers, follow:

PORTLAND—Due to a large amount of down-logs in the woods and with the seasonal fire hazard approaching, several falling and bucking crews have been laid off at the Long Bell camp at Ryderwood. Some commercial loggers of the Columbia river and adjacent districts are making preparations to close camps next week. Nearly all Portland sawmills have returned to the six-day week. High water in the Willamette river today caused an enforced shutdown of the Peninsula Lumber company's sawmill here. Calls for mill help are few and there are few experienced millmen now unemployed. Highway work is active and many men who have been laid off at camp hired out in road crews, although there are still many unemployed loggers in this city.

ABERDEEN—Two more large camps have laid off fallers and buckers and by June 1 logging will have ceased at 65 per cent of the operations in this district. Labor turnover during the past week was lighter than it has been at any time this year.

TACOMA—Labor turnover has been extremely light and except for short jobs within the city there was little new work offered last week. Tacoma camps and mills quite generally con-

tinue the curtailed production basis of operation.

SEATTLE—With the laying off of several more logging crews last week Seattle's unemployed was noticeably increased. The sawmill of the Puget Sound Mills & Timber Co., Port Angeles, has been shut down for an indefinite period. Building and construction in Seattle and district are very active but there are more than enough laborers to fill all needs.

SPOKANE—There is at present a scarcity of skilled pine sawmill help and lumber graders, but a surplus of all other kinds of labor. A majority of the larger sawmills and planers in the Inland Empire are operating two shifts, as is usual at this time of year. Highway crews are well filled. The demand for all kinds of unskilled labor during the past week has been confined to a few replacements.

BEND—Local sawmills are operating two shifts six days per week. Resident workers and loggers are well employed. A small amount of highway construction is being done this summer. Several itinerant workers have drifted into Bend recently expecting to get work on the projected railroad lines in Central Oregon. This will not begin for some time.

KLAMATH FALLS—Pine sawmills and box factories in this district are busy with the season's cut. A night shift was put on last week at the Big Lake box plant. All of the Pelican Bay camps are running. Lumber shipments for May will total a good high average. Resident woodsmen and sawmill help are well employed.

Here To Attend Funeral—Mrs. Vance Barber, of Bend, is in the city to attend the funeral of her grandfather, George Read. She is visiting at the home of her sister Mrs. Max Cogill.

Motor To Brownsville—Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Male will motor to Brownsville Friday evening to spend the week-end with Mrs. Male's parents.

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