

News About Oregon Industries

Prairie City, Ore., August 17.—It has taken the smallest saw mill in the state to discover a use for that hitherto useless variety of timber—lodge pole pine. The Prairie City Box Company, organized last winter, is working ten miles up Dixie creek cutting lodge pole thickets up into ten foot logs, which are then shaved down to half inch box shooks that are finding a ready market in Southern Idaho. The mill is a curiosity in that the largest poles it handles have a top diameter of only eight inches. The mill employs just eight men and a horse and is operated by means of a boiler and engine picked up in an old stamp mill nearby. The building itself is one of the war-time portables used in France.

Gold Hill, Ore., August 17.—Three tons of explosives going up in a mighty boom announced the opening of the new quarry of the Beaver Portland Cement Company at Zacher, west of Gold Hill. The added supply of rock will soon be brought in in such quantities as to keep the plant running day and night.

Portland, Ore., Aug. 17.—Brushes and brooms of every description are now being turned out by the Portland Brush and Broom Company in twice the former quantity. New machinery just installed doubles the plants capacity and makes it the most complete on the coast.

Albany, Ore., August 17.—A large cement structure with trackage frontage is now in course of construction for the fruit association here. This warehouse will practically double the carrying capacity.

Albany, Ore., August 17.—With evergreen, blackberries no longer regarded by the farmers as a pest, preparations are being made to handle at least 500 tons of the fruit at the Albany cannery this season. Work will begin on them as soon as the present rush of loganberries is out of the way.

Portland, Ore., August 17.—The presidential election has been given precedence this year in planning for the annual food show held at the armory by Portland merchants and the date has been moved up to the week following November 4.

Terrebonne, Ore., August 17.—With the arrival of an enormous steam shovel for the Western Diatomite Company's mine at Lower Bridge and commencement of work on the warehouse the concern's employes have increased in number from six to 60. Increases in freight rates have brought forth calls for more rush orders than the mine can handle.

Portland, Ore., August 17.—A number of the new Portland-made Caravan motor trucks have been completed by the Hesse-Martin Iron Works and are being sold locally.

Finished woolen products from the mills in Portland and vicinity now bring in over \$10,000,000 per year, according to a statement issued here a few days ago. Increase of business has made Portland the second wool center in the United States second only to Boston.

Harrisburg, Ore., August 17.—A heavy yield of hops this year is expected around Harrisburg, where picking will commence about August 24. Pickers are to receive two cents per pound.

With a view to greater trade expansion for Oregon the joint traffic bureau of the Port of Portland and commission of public docks has opened a permanent office in New York. The port also has a traffic representative touring the far east and is soon to appoint another to cover the North China field.

Portland, Ore., August 17.—Spahnnum moss has provided this city with a new industry that is now employing 20 people preparing the material for shipment all over the United States and to a number of foreign countries, where it is marketed chiefly in the form of surgical dressing. The establishment here, known as the Spahnnum Products Company, has just been reorganized and the controlling stock and active management has been taken over by W. S. Stock for many years with the Blumauer-Frank Drug Company.

Hood River, Ore., August 17.—Estimates on the apple crop for this year have taken another jump in the past two weeks and it is now thought

the harvest will be 65 percent of the one in 1919. Fruit of usually good quality is being looked forward to and preparations are being made for heavy export business.

Gold Hill, Ore., August 17.—Deep down in the diggings of the old Sylvanite mines a hitherto untouched body of rich gold ore has been uncovered in such quantity that the future stability of the group is insured. The precious mineral was found at a depth of over 500 feet and yield from \$20 to \$50 to the ton.

Charting of wood-using industries of the United States is to be one of the first steps to be taken in the educational campaign to increase the market for northwestern lumber and its products. The report, which will be of great value in this state, will be completed in 90 days.

For the first time in many years a vessel flying the Swedish flag put in at the Portland harbor a few days ago. She was the steamer Indus, which is to load a full cargo of wheat for the United Kingdom.

Salem, Ore., August 17.—Harvesting of the state flax crop here began last week with a crew of 20 pullers from Portland assisting. This makes approximately 200 people at work gathering the flax.

Bandon, Ore., August 17.—Short lengths of white cedar ready to ship direct to Japan are to be turned out by a small sawmill to be established here by the Pacific Exports Company. Finished lumber will mean a considerable saving in freight rates in the Orient.

Phosphate rock from Oregon is to be carried by direct boat routes to the Netherlands, where it is in much demand for fertilizer. This is an outcome of the decision of the Holland American line to establish service between Portland and Europe. The liners will be the first to carry passengers through the Panama canal

between the two American coasts. The 12,000 ton steamer Eendijk is already en route to this city.

Cove, Ore., August 17.—Orchardists of Cove who in 1917 gleefully signed three year contracts to market cherries at \$0 a ton are now seeing Royal Annes sell in a ready market at \$500 a ton, Blags at \$175 and other varieties at \$150.

All export records in the history of Portland were broken last month when the total valuation of commodities sent to foreign ports during July reached \$8,933,999 or a gain of 236 percent over the same period last year. Wheat, flour and lumber accounted for the greater share of this.

Within the next few weeks the first sardine cannery on the Columbia river will be in operation in Astoria. It is to be operated by John V. Tynd, who is erecting his cannery at Smiths Point.

The Brownsville Canning Company of Forest Grove has been running almost to full capacity since the fruit and berry season opened, and the plant is now turning out about eight tons of loganberries and an equal amount of cherries each day.

To provide a steady supply of high grade building stone in answer to the local demand for a material of the kind, an organization of Bend business men has been formed and preparation of the quarry site for the production of building blocks from stone was recently started.

During the last ten days the United States forest service has placed eleven machines in the field to patrol timbered areas of Western Oregon, with bases at Eugene and Medford. Each base is equipped with radio receiving sets capable of handling messages from a distance of 100 miles.

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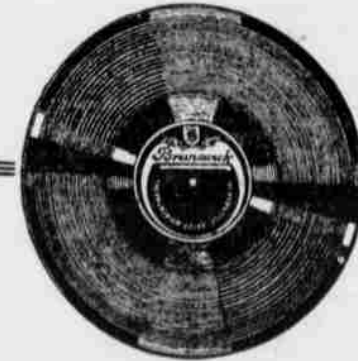
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