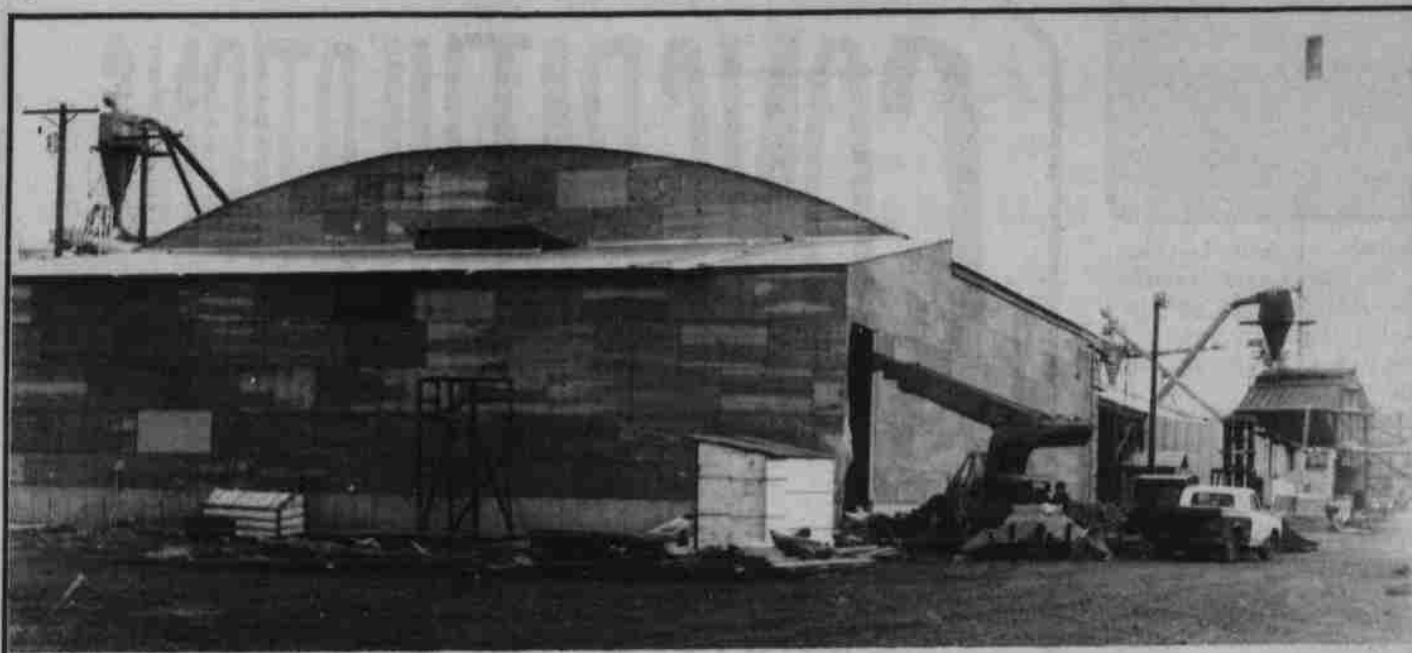




PLANING MILL—Shown here is the new Kinzua Planing Mill at Heppner. According to Harry Kennison, operations manager, the planing mill is scheduled for operation about June 1 and will have a capacity of 250,000 board feet per shift. The building is 100 by 400 feet. A new trimmer will be part of the mill which will have a price tag of \$500,000 when complete.

\$500,000 planing mill set to begin operation by June

The new 100 by 400 foot planing mill at Kinzua in Heppner is expected to be in operation about June 1. The completed facility is expected to handle 250,000 board feet

per shift and employ from 15 to 16 persons per shift, Harry Kennison, operations manager, said.

Kennison said the new addition will represent a \$500,000 investment when installation is completed. A new trimmer along with an automatic sorting line, a drop down tray system built by Lumber Systems of Portland, will be made part of the operation.

"The 40,000 square foot building will house on of the

most modern planer operations in the industry," Kennison said.

He said work would begin on a two shift basis until the operation was up to production.

Central to the operation is the Stetson-Ross Planer, moved in November from the Kinzua operation to Heppner. The planer was bought new by

Kinzua Corporation in 1969. The Stetson-Ross Planer is considered by the trade as the Cadillac of planer equipment.

Elvyn Bell, planer foreman, recently completed a training school with Stetson-Ross in Seattle. The training is just one of hundreds of man hours of effort which will go into the job of putting the mill on line by June.

Weed control program in swing

The U.S. Forest Service has begun a ten-year cooperative program of noxious weed control on National Forest lands in the Pacific Northwest.

National Forests receiving money for the program for the first year include Umatilla, Malheur, Wallowa-Whitman and 12 others.

Final approval of Congressional appropriations came late last year from the Office of Management and Budget. It means planned funding, for the first time, of efforts to control such weeds as tansy ragwort, a yellow-flowered plant that's extremely toxic to horses and cattle.

In addition to tansy, other wide-ranging noxious weeds covered in the program include whitetop and several species of knapweed and thistle. Also included are several lesser known weeds that are problems in individual areas.

In Oregon this year, approximately \$96,000 is available for control on some 10,220 acres. Funds were allocated on the basis of local weed control district needs and plans.

In the past, lack of money has meant mostly using volunteer and youth work to control the weeds.



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