

KILN DRYING DOUGLAS FIR COMMON LUMBER

A recent report of the Forest Service, appearing in the West Coast Lumberman for February 1, indicates that it is entirely practical to kiln dry No. 1 common Douglas fir boards and dimension. Heretofore the kiln drying of these grades has been held impractical because of the damage done to the lumber by the methods used. The present practice of lumber manufacturers is to air dry Douglas fir common, or to ship it green.

The kiln drying of Douglas fir common promises to become one of the most effective measures for conserving this material, by reducing the losses now occurring with air drying and machining. The saving to be gained in lower freight rates through shipping dry lumber instead of partially wet lumber will not only greatly benefit the lumber manufacturer, but eventually the consuming public, and moreover will permit a wider distribution of this fine structural material, the report states.

In 1920, plants lying west of the Cascade mountains in Oregon and Washington produced 2 1/4 billion ft. of No. 1 common Douglas fir boards and dimension, representing more than 42 per cent of the total volume of fir cut in this region. As the local market does not absorb this amount of common lumber it becomes necessary to find markets in the great consuming centers of the east and middle west. The Atlantic seaboard can be supplied by cargo by way of the Panama canal, but the middle west is reached only by rail. Since rail charges are based on weight, each pound of water removed from the lumber actually lowers the cost of transporting the lumber to the markets.

Report is based on research done by the Forest Service in co-operation with the West Coast Lumbermen's association at the plant of the Wheeler-Osgood company in Tacoma.

Kiln drying of Douglas fir common is a problem which differs in several respects from most kiln drying problems. In order that the knots shall not drop out of the wood, the maximum temperature must be limited more or less by the melting point of the resin around the knots, and the humidity kept high enough so as not to allow excessive differential shrinkage between the knots and the body wood. The difficulty of keeping the knots in place is lessened to some extent by the fact that it is usually not necessary to dry common lumber to a moisture content lower than 15 per cent. A new complication is added, however, inasmuch as it is very difficult to bring heartwood and sapwood to a uniform moisture content as high as 15 per cent by any ordinary kiln-drying method.

These unusual requirements demand that a kiln for drying Douglas fir common shall have a very rapid and uniform circulation readily reversible in direction, and an accurate control of temperature and humidity. The only type of kiln which at present can be safely recommended for this class of work is an internal fan-kiln similar to the semi-commercial unit in operation at the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, or to the kiln used by the laboratory at Tacoma, Washington, in developing the schedules for the drying of No. 1 Douglas fir common.

Sulfur Increases Crop on Most Red Hill Soil.

Sulfur has beat super-phosphate producing increases in crop yields on red hill soils in recent field experiments conducted by the Oregon Experiment station, reports, W. L. Powers, head of soils investigation at O. A. C. As much as 5.0 per cent increase has been obtained from sulfur treatments.

Four field fertilizer experiments are maintained on red hill soils at Shaw, Corbett and North Albany, and on the uplands at the Astoria branch experiment station. There are 12 to 30 plots at each location.

The sulfur content of red hill soils runs only 150 to 400 pounds in the plowed surface of an acre, as shown by chemical analysis made by the department of agricultural chemistry, of soils from several counties surveyed. That these soils are deficient in available sulfur at the close of the rainy season is indicated by the fact that more sulfur is lost in drainage than comes down in the rainfall.

Gypsum, which is calcium sulfate, has aided in nitrification and in establishing new clover stands.

Sulfur can be bought as flour sulfur or in gypsum, which is one-sixth sulfur in available form.

Continued use of sulfur, or applied faster than it is used up by the plants, tends to produce an acid condition that may make necessary the use of lime.

Want ads. add to your profit.

GRESHAM LOCALS

Mrs. Ben Raney of Portland was in Gresham today looking after business affairs and visiting with her daughter, Mrs. T. R. Howitt.

Mrs. Fred Buerley of Centralia, Washington, is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Matt Schanno. The latter's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. George Baker and sister, Miss Helen Baker, of Kelso, Washington, were guests here on last Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. J. C. Carlson returned last night from southern California where she went ten weeks ago on a trip combining business and pleasure. The weather has been uncomfortably warm in the south, according to Mrs. Carlson.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. McCarter have gone to Bayard, Nebraska, where they expect to remain indefinitely. Their daughter, Mrs. Eva Holth and her little daughter, Olive, will remain here with relatives.

The sixth birthday of Charles and Kathryn Gorsage was celebrated with a party given by their mother, Mrs. W. L. Gorsage, on last Saturday, March 10. Their birth anniversary was on Wednesday preceding but the day of the party was the tenth birthday of the Sterling twins, Robert and Ruth, who were among the guests. Others present were Virginia Miller, Margaret Ott, Dorothy Sunday, Donald Page, Marjorie Aylsworth, Loreta Dahl, Richard Metzger, Russell Akin, Robert Jones, Jean Elkington, May Parker and Jean Botkin. Mrs. Jackson Jones assisted Mrs. Gorsage in entertaining.

B. F. Bauer of Montavilla was a caller on Gresham friends today. Mr. Bauer and his family have but recently returned from northern Illinois where they have been all winter. They found very unfavorable health conditions and did not delay their return until spring as they had intended. They are very glad to be back in Oregon.

Wilson Eastman recently underwent an operation for the removal of his tonsils.

Judge and Mrs. G. W. Stapleton spent a few days at Seaside, returning home Monday night. They report having enjoyed one beautiful day.

A 19-pound girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Perry on Monday, March 12.

Eugene Callison, who is in Portland sanitarium for treatment, is reported considerably improved.

J. V. Cemer left the latter part of last week for a business trip to Pocatello, Idaho, and Butte, Montana, which will keep him away from home for about six weeks.

Principal Cannon reports that the attendance at the high school has been considerably interfered with last week and this by an epidemic of colds and grip. This condition has affected both teachers and pupils. As many as 28 students were out on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McMaster and daughter Charmion, of Corvallis, were week-end guests of Principal and Mrs. Roy Cannon. Mr. McMaster is principal of the Corvallis high school.

Claire Burch had the misfortune to lose the first joint of his left fore finger while splitting wood Saturday. Mrs. Thos. McKenney is spending the week in Tualatin with her niece, Mrs. Chas. Rosplack.

Mrs. W. C. Burch has returned from Roseburg where she spent two weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Chas. Lockwood. A daughter, Charlotte Jane, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood on February 20.

Miss Eva Tacheron is one of the 14 new pledges of the Beta Chi sorority at Willamette University. She will take up her residence at the chapter house in the fall.

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Rossman of Portland were recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Day Rossman.

A skating party under the auspices of the Epworth League was enjoyed last Saturday night at The Oaks rink. The young people were accompanied by Mrs. J. V. Cemer, Miss Florence Honey, H. L. St. Clair and George Webster.

Veteran's Bureau Has Portland Office. War risk insurance service has been established in connection with the United States Veteran's Bureau in Portland, bureau officials have announced. Miss Metta Walker has been named insurance cashier. Instead of sending premium payment to Washington, D. C., war veterans of Oregon are entitled to take advantage of the branch office service.

Loans on policies and other matters relative to government insurance are also handled at the Portland offices in the Myler building. There are several thousand ex-service people of this sub-district carrying war insurance. Those who have allowed their war risk policies to lapse are urged to reinstate their insurance. If in good health, only two months back premiums need be paid.

Twenty years from now we'd laugh to see coming down the road one of the clumsy contrivances we now call automobiles. In that day any one of them will start under all conditions at the press of a button, pneumatic tires will be unknown, the parts to be tinkered with will be about half of those now in use, and the power will be steam or electricity.

Patronize the Home Shoe Shiner. Men's and ladies' shoes, Saturday afternoon and evening. Ruben Anderson, stand in Todd's Barber Shop.

Need Your Suit Cleaned? Have it French dry cleaned. Re-pairing neatly done. Tailoring for ladies and men. PETER LENARD, Tailor.

Sings First to Two Continents



Miss Edith Bennett, of N. Y., is a happy soprano. Singing from Newark, N. J., Feb. 25, her sixteen songs were heard in England and France. In Paris an amateur with a home-made radio picked up the program.

RADIO FANS PRAISE WILLARD BATTERIES

A good deal of interest and no little friendly competition is developing among the local radio operators. It is a "catch as catch can" contest to see who is able to get the greatest number and the farthest distant broadcasting stations.

Tacked on the wall above or near the receiving set of almost any of our local radio "fans" you will find a large map of the United States literally dotted with broadcasting stations checked off as they have been caught by the individual's radio set. It is a matter of considerable pride on the part of each radio operator to get one or more new stations every evening. Some of these maps are so dotted with checks and crosses or other marks as to render them practically useless for any other purpose.

Mr. McCarter, local Willard battery dealer, has made an interesting investigation along these lines. Having sold a number of radio batteries to owners of some of the larger sets, and having advised a number of radio enthusiasts in the building of sets, he was curious as to how these sets compared with others.

"I found that practically every set equipped with storage 'A' and 'B' batteries were far better both in picking up distant stations and in the clearness of reception," said Mr. McCarter. "I also learned that the sets equipped with Willard radio batteries are leading both as to number of stations picked up and as to distance of stations receiving sets."

"The ability to pick up distant stations, of course, does not depend entirely on the battery. Antenna, wiring and tubes all have their influence in determining the limits of the set. But without a good storage battery it is practically impossible to get good results, I have found."

When the Machine Won't Work.

It is safe to say that a majority of the troubles experienced with machinery, automobiles and power farming equipment are due to lack of knowledge on the part of the operator as to what the machine is capable of doing and how to keep it in first-class working condition. It naturally follows, therefore, that if, as a farming class, we are to get proper and adequate results from our grain drills, automobiles, gasoline engines, tractors, cream separators, lighting plants and any other modern machinery we must go about learning our individual machines and how to take care of and operate them.

There are a few folks—and only a few—who can not learn and who can not become reasonably skillful in the handling of machinery. Unfortunately for themselves, those few are the last to learn that they can not learn. But the overwhelming number of farmers, especially of farm boys and girls, who will this spring or next fall or next year be operating some of this modern equipment, are more than capable of becoming reasonably proficient in this line of work. There is little excuse for such persons to remain ignorant and inexperienced. There are too many opportunities to learn; there are too many books written on the subject by authorities whose primary purpose is to make modern devices practical; there are too many schools, some private and some conducted by the state colleges, whose sole purpose is to educate and train operators along these lines. Manufacturers and distributors of implements and machinery almost invariably have literature containing the essential fundamentals. For those who can not attend a trade school either at the state college or at a private institute, correspondence courses have been prepared and are given in such way as to be of much value.—Oregon Farmer.

This is an age of machinery. The coming age will be an age of more machinery, for machinery has come to stay. No man, therefore, should be without modern equipment merely because he is afraid he can not operate it successfully, and no one who has it should condemn it until he has made sure that he knows what it can do when properly operated and knows how to properly operate it.

Cut Federal Expenses. The cost of running the United States government during the six months ended December 31, 1922, was \$1,628,230,650. This was \$209,676,782 less than the operating costs of the government during the corresponding six months of 1921. Expenditures of all departments showed a decrease but the most notable decreases were in the treasury, war and navy departments.

If you would make the most of your opportunities, you must allow your opportunities to make the most of you.

Regular meeting of Gresham Lodge No. 125, I.O.O.F. in the Odd Fellows hall, every Thursday evening. Brothers welcome. ARTHUR H. HENSLEY, N. G. C. A. HILL, Secretary.

DON'T FORGET

The Big 9c Sale

Is Still On

Specials Wednesday and Thursday Only

ALUMINUM WARE, each - 9c

Your choice of 1 quart Sauce Pans, 1 quart Mixing Bowls or 1 quart Pudding Pans.

EXTRA SPECIAL

Friday and Saturday Only

6-in. Fancy Colored Glass Vases, ea. 9c

DON'T MISS THESE BIG VALUES

NOTICE—A Beautiful Vase to the Oldest Person Attending the Big 9c Sale.

Leave Your Name, Age and Address

HEPP'S RACKET STORE

GRESHAM, OREGON

It Pays to Trade at Bishop's

Continued for one Week

Our NOTION SALE for the Ladies' Home Sewing Circle Week has been continued for one week. We appreciate the support we have received from this sale and wish to give others opportunity to benefit by the reduced prices on NOTIONS.

IN EVERY WAY it pays to trade at

Bishop Bros.

RURAL CARRIER SEEKS HOME IN MIDDLE WEST

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Lish, carrier and substitute carrier on Rural Route A from Gresham postoffice, will be transferred to Pawnee City, Nebraska, about the 15th of this month and the carrier at that place will come here. The transfer is the result of an advertisement placed in The Rural Carrier in January asking for a transfer to the middle west on account of health conditions. Within a few days after the ad appeared 50 answers were received and to date 80 have come, showing the large number who are anxious to make their home in the west. The answers came from practically all of the middle western states from Minnesota to Missouri, also from Ohio on the east and Idaho, Montana and Colorado on the west.

Mr. and Mrs. Lish have personally answered these letters, and have told of their unusually long route and the large number of patrons whom they serve, with the result that the number who still desired to consider the transfer was materially cut down.

In view of the impending change and the difficulties under which a new carrier will work until he becomes familiar with his route, Miss E. E. Johnson, Gresham postmaster, has requested the cooperation of all rural patrons in complying with the regulation which provides that boxes are to be plainly marked with the name of patron and the box number. It will be necessary for the new carrier to familiarize himself with the location of approximately 500 boxes, serving 655 families on a route 50.3 miles in length, according to Miss Johnson, and at present many of these boxes have neither name, number, nor any mark of identification. Names and box numbers should be stenciled or painted on the boxes. In this connection all patrons should use the number assigned to their boxes, and not the old number which was used before the routes were changed two or three years ago.

Every effort will be made to maintain the best possible service and all are requested to cooperate by marking box, thus facilitating the work of the carrier and avoiding any interruption in the delivery and collection of mail.

Mr. and Mrs. Lish have been on this route for a little more than two years and have missed no time excepting three and a half days when they were unable to make no deliveries on account of storm conditions.

NITRATE FERTILIZERS BENEFIT GARDEN CROPS

Applications of nitrate fertilizers materially benefit spring garden crops. Nitrogen is one of the essential plant food elements and is directly associated with vegetable growth. Sodium nitrate or chili saltpeter furnishes nitrogen in the form that is readily available for plant use.

Much depends on applying the nitrate at the right time, the best being early in the growing period of the plant. The increased benefit will compensate for any losses due to leaching.

The application of sodium nitrate recommended for the garden is 150 pounds the acre. Large lumps should be crushed and screened through one-fourth inch screen or smaller. Before spreading the fertilizer mix with twice its weight of sand or air slaked lime, to act as a filler and aid in even distribution. Sometimes superphosphate is used with sodium nitrate, 150 pounds of nitrate to 300 pounds of superphosphate. After thorough mixing these fertilizers are applied broadcast or by fertilizer distributing machines. Work the material into the surface soil with a harrow or other tool.

Sodium nitrate fertilizers should never be applied directly to the damp foliage as burning will result. Do not put an excess near the base of plants.

Radishes, spinach, lettuce, peas, cabbage, turnips, and other early garden crops respond readily to the application of nitrate fertilizers.

Tent caterpillars were seriously abundant in many orchard sections last year. The insect occurs at this time as eggs deposited in compact masses in the form of waxy rings about the terminal twigs. These egg masses should be watched for and where observed should be cut out of the trees and removed from the orchard.

Money to loan on real estate. B. W. Thorne, at Bank of Gresham.

Stated communication of Gresham Lodge A. F. & A. M. No. 152 will be held in Masonic hall, Tuesday, March 13. Special business of importance in reference to purchase of hall.

W. L. GORSAGE, Sec'y. J. E. METZGER, W. M.

DANCE

MARCH 16

MASONIC HALL, GRESHAM

Kewpie Olson's Orchestra

Good Music A Good Floor

COMMITTEE

Jack Shultz, W. A. Hessel

Edw. Aylsworth, J. E. Metzger

EVERYBODY WELCOME

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Vulcanizing and Retreading All Work Guaranteed

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GEO. A. BRANDT Phone 1107

Implements, Farm Machinery

Repairs for all Implements

A large line of good used implements, cream separators and gas engines

HESSEL'S FARM MACHINERY

Reliability 1141 GRESHAM Service 1141

Oak Wood \$10.50 Fir Wood \$8.00

in four-foot or rick wood, delivered

W. A. HESSEL

Gresham Commercial Club Slogan Contest

\$5.00 Prize

For the best slogan for Gresham area to be used by Commercial Club and others on stationery.

\$5.00 Prize

For the best suggested design, diagram, emblem or picture suggestive of products, scenery, location, or all three combined.

Open to anyone, young or old. Contest closes March 26, 1923

Address all replies or hand to contest committee.

J. R. Martin, J. E. Metzger, L. R. Ellerman