

# Forests Primeval Line Jackson County Highways

TIMBER WEALTH GREAT

There are in Jackson county, Oregon, today as standing timber more than 20,000,000,000 feet available for manufacturing purposes, and at the present price of labor it costs \$8 per 1000 feet to manufacture the same into lumber.

In order to manufacture the available standing timber in Jackson county into lumber at the rate of 500,000,000 feet per annum, it will require forty years to cut the present stand; and the increased growth of timber in Jackson county would offset a manufactured product of the timber standing of 500,000,000 feet per year. If there were 500,000,000 feet of timber manufactured in Jackson county at the cost of \$8 per 1000 feet, it would represent an outlay in labor of \$4,000,000 per annum, and it would require 5000 men working each day to turn out the product.

For the manufacture of this timber, a saw mill and box factory at Medford are being financed by Edgar S. Hafer in co-operation with local business men and orchardists, to the end that all Rogue river fruit, that is estimated to require over a million boxes a year, will be shipped in home manufactured boxes.

Development of the timber resources of southern Oregon in the hands of the government will probably take place rapidly within the next few years, no doubt much more quickly than the timber in possession of private owners.

Of the 20,000,000,000 feet of standing timber in Jackson county, more than one-half of it is in the hands of private owners. Yet the lumbering industry in Jackson county is in its infancy,

while it should be foremost among all industries in the county. In some future time it certainly will be, but such development depends on better transportation facilities. Owners of large tracts of timber have so much capital involved in the acquiescent of their holdings that they are reluctant to invest heavier in the construction of railroads in order to get their timber to market.

Market values for lumber have constantly been increasing and they feel it a good investment to continue holding their timber. The government is willing to sell its mature timber at any time, and its recently fire killed timber it is advertising for sale now at extraordinary low prices and in large enough bodies to warrant the construction of railroads to the timber.

The Pacific & Eastern railroad already touches the timber belt of Upper Rogue river, and the railroad proposed to the Blue Ledge copper

mines will open up the vast timbered region of the Siskiyou range.

The milling of the lumber from these great forests will be reduced to minimum cost because of the unlimited water power afforded by Rogue river and Butte creek on the one hand and by the Applegate, Little Applegate, Joe and Elliott creeks on the other.

All the merchantable timber included in this estimate is of first grade. The trees are long-bodied, towering from 100 to 300 feet, the straight brown trunks free of limbs for many feet up.

Ashland's environment presents a charm seldom met with in European tours, for it combines, in a bewitching degree, both rugged mountain and quiet pastoral scenes—not awe inspiring like the Alps, but of superb beauty aspect appealing strongly to aesthetic natures and quieting to sensitive nerves.



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The Timbered Wealth of Jackson County Comprises Over Twenty Million Feet of Merchantable Timber, Principally Sugar and Yellow Pine, Douglas Fir, Hemlock, Larch, etc.

FOREST FIRE PROTECTION

One of the chief features of the federal government's fire protection work in the northwest, has been the establishment of lookout stations upon the natural peaks of the region—peaks varying from 2000 to over 3000 feet in elevation.

The equipment of these peaks with the necessary quarters for a lookout man has, in some instances, almost reached the dignity of an engineering feat. This is true of the lookout station on top of Black Rock Mountain on the Umpqua National Forest in southern Oregon. This mountain is 6150 feet high, and the station is built on the bare rocky summit.

On the Crater forest in southern Oregon, there are 12 lookout points, the chief of which are Wagner Butte, 7460 feet in elevation, Rustler Peak, 6200 feet, and Robinson Butte, 6000 feet. Wagner Butte is on the divide between Rogue and Klamath rivers, and commands a view of Bear creek valley, Medford, Ashland, Talent and other towns. On Robinson Butte, the ranger has devised an original tower by boring a spiral line of two inch auger holes in a big tree, driving in yew pegs, and connecting their outside ends with fir poles partly sawed through to make them pliable.

Lookout stations are fitted out with telephone, for the telephone system on the National forests forms a network of lines connecting all the important administrative sites. Some lookout points, however, are so inaccessible that the cost of stretching a telephone line would be prohibitive.

The past season has demonstrated beyond doubt the benefit of a system of lookouts.

## Ashland Mineral Springs Development

(By Bert R. Greer, Chairman Ashland Springs Water Commission.)

The Rogue river valley is destined soon to become famous as a tourist resort, as she has long been as a deciduous fruit region.

Nature has placed, in the vicinity of Ashland, flowing from her hillside and cleft banks of mountain streams, about 40 mineral springs, gaseous and radio-active, of marvelous healing power and high mineral constituents combined and mortared in her own secret laboratory.

These are grouped in a radius of 12 miles and are privately owned and held at high values, although little developed.

These mineral waters have been long recognized as Ashland's greatest resource, but private capital is

timid and few of them have been practically utilized.

About a year ago mineral water development was started as a municipal enterprise. Search was made and five new springs discovered by the city and are now owned by it; one of lithia, carrying higher lithia content than any other natural mineral water in the world, save one; another of iron, magnesia and soda; one of sulphur, one hundred degrees thermal; one of soda and lithia combined and one of carbon dioxide gas.

Besides these, sulphur springs, both cold and thermal, abound in the corporate limits of the city. Two of them have been utilized for years for bathing and drinking purposes and well appointed natatoriums, equipped with swimming pools and hot and cold tub and shower baths, are in

successful operation.

Besides highly mineralized waters this region abounds in carbon dioxide gas springs. The same character of gas now being utilized in baths at European spas with splendid results in the treatment of heart diseases, gout and eczema. Ashland waters have proven beneficial as well, used internally, for stomach and kidney affections, and the sulphur and gas baths have many rheumatic cures to their credit.

Analyses and careful comparison, both as to mineral components and practical results, discloses Ashland waters as not inferior, if not superior in curative value, to the waters of Bad Neuhelm, Kissington and Carlsbad. The combination of highly mineralized water, with such ingredients as occur here, and carbon di-

oxide gas, especially waters classed as alkaline, is now recognized by the medical profession generally as of great virtue in treatment of numerous affections, both external and internal. When it is remembered that but one eastern spring carries carbon dioxide gas the superior virtue of Ashland waters over all other American waters for medicinal use becomes at once apparent.

Last June the city of Ashland authorized a bond issue of \$175,000 for the further development and utilization of its five mineral springs. In its new Lithia park, embracing 67 acres just above its present Plaza park. A magnificent water temple, the finest of its kind in America, is now planned and will be at once constructed and the new park developed to a high degree for beauty and comfort. Band concerts afternoon and evening will be a feature of entertainment after the first of June. Plans are now under way for a fire

new tourist hotel to cost about \$150,000 complete, with broad verandas and the last word in appointment and service, and a modern water cure sanitarium, under supervision of skilled physicians.

The plan of operation now in force at Carlsbad, Austria, will be followed here.

An attractive feature of the park development is a free automobile camp ground, with sanitary appointments, cooking ovens, free wood and all the conveniences that make camp life pleasurable.

A number of attractive scenic drives with long safe curves and easy grades are laid out along the bluffs of Ashland canyon, one of them semi-circling the city for 15 miles. The splendid example in permanent road construction set by the Jackson county court in reducing the grade on the Pacific highway over the summit of the Siskiyou will be followed in this new development.