

# Economic Backbone of Oregon Feted

The fiber which is the economic backbone of Oregon is being feted during National Forest Products week, Oct. 20-26, say the Oregon Committee of American Forest Products Industries, Inc.

Today there are some 10,000 products made of wood. The manufacturing of these products now account for some 50 per cent of the jobs and 54 per cent of the payroll of Oregon's manufacturing industry.

Oregon's economy literally stands on wooden legs.

Since the early pioneer days of the Oregon Territory, wood and wood products have served as major factors in the development and growth of the state. However, the scene is an ever changing one as science and technology find new keys to uses of the magic fibers which come from our surrounding forests.

## Reducing Pills

In this day of space exploration, wood is finding its way into nosecones of missiles. As our figures grow around the waist and the scales read higher, men and women add to the consumption of wood by reaching for their reducing pills. Wood pulp is a basic ingredient of several popular reducing pills. The loss of appetite is brought about by the expansion of the pulp in your stomach.

Milady's fineries are often found to be wood as wood pulp is dissolved and scientifically spun into rayon.

Newspapers are obvious wood products in their familiar form. However, less obvious are cigarette filters and cellophane wrappers. Another even more obscure use of the magic fiber is its transformation into plastics. Wood by-products are basic components of the plastic in your telephone.

## Other Wood Products

Wood products and by-products are found all around us today. Quite often the presence of wood is not recognizable, but it is generally there. As mentioned above, plastics have wood in them — so do such items as lacquers, photographic film and disinfectants.

For that matter, wood produces acetic acid which goes into perfumes; baking yeast used by the baking industry; butadiene which is used in synthetic tires; carbonic acid used in industrial chemicals; ethyl alcohol used in solvents; cattle feed and chicken feed; glycerine used in medicines and industrial chemicals; sugars used in stock feed and ethanol. The list of products made from wood and wood distillation and hydrolysis is endless and these mentioned here are but a very few.

The committee points out that wood is making our life more comfortable, is helping stretch our buying power and helping raise our standards of living. National Forest Products week gives us all an opportunity to give this great natural resource

a little thought.

Oregon has provided wood to the nation and will continue

to do so so long as man lives on this earth. Sound forest management is assuring the perpet-

ual supply of an abundant amount of timber to fill man's needs, the committee adds.

## MODERN LOGGING Requires Modern Machines



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## Imports Helped To Mold Lives of Ancient Chinese

By JAMES J. HEALY

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — When scholars and sinologists refer to the glories of ancient China chances are they mean the more than three centuries of the T'ang dynasty, from about 603 to 907 A.D.

The men of T'ang (pronounced Tong) gave the world fine porcelain, its first block printing, paper and gun powder.

A little known truth of the "Glory of T'ang" was the extent of importing done during that era, either by camel train from the north and west or by huge junks which plied the oceans to such far away places as Africa.

Sinologist Edward H. Schafer recently brought to light in a volume published by the University of California Press the thirst for exotics during the time of T'ang.

Titled the "Golden Peaches of Samarkand," Schafer's work attempts to explain the natural desire for objects from "enchanted lands." In this, he says, the Chinese of the period were little different than Americans of today with their purchases of cameras from Germany and Japan, autos from England, furniture from Denmark and perfumes from France.

### Were Tributes

Trees bearing the "Golden Peaches" were sent to the Chinese court as a tribute from the Iranian city-state of Samarkand. Schafer said he titled his book from them "because the peaches symbolize all the exotic things longed for . . . by the people of the T'ang empire."

Other tribute often took more bizarre forms, such as the two albino troglodytes sent by Cambodia, or the heavily bearded Ainus brought to the "Middle Kingdom" from Japan.

But along with those ambassadors who brought tributes came merchants from far lands (all considered barbarians by the Chinese) whose caravans carried spices and aromatic woods, brocades and small, rare animals, richly plumed birds for the pleasure of the private citizens, books and metals.

Other things brought to Chang'an, the capital city of T'ang, were intangibles, such as music.

Imported "western" music was greatly favored during T'ang, according to Schafer,

and many were the wealthy Chinese who took instruction from some "barbarian" in the art of mastering a foreign instrument.

### Porcelain Horses

The T'ang dynasty is noted for the magnificent porcelain horses created by its artisans. But little known is that fact that important as horses were, mostly for purposes of war, the finest steeds came from other lands.

It was not uncommon, says Schafer, for a vassal state to send the emperor thousands of horses. Merchants often brought whole herds to sell and the Chinese snapped them up.

From the west came Arabian chargers and from the north, tough, long-winded plains ponies "loved and admired."

Maps and books on science from western nations, metal armor and precious jewels, silks and textiles, drugs and fancy foods all found their way into China and helped mold the fabric of life during T'ang.

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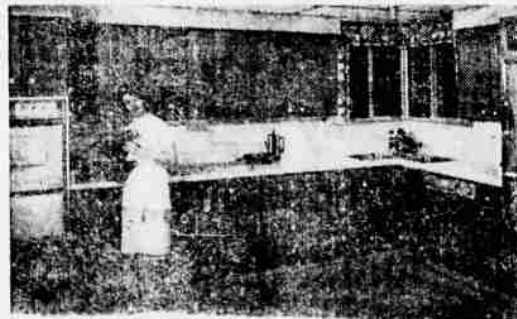
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