

Southern Pine Men Offer Prize of \$1000 for Aid in Grade Marking Puzzle

Important actions having to do with various phases of the grade-marking of lumber, which practice was instituted by subscribers of mills of the Southern Pine Association April 1, were taken at the mid-summer meetings of the board of directors and subscribers held in Memphis, Tuesday, June 16. There were about 150 prominent Southern Pine manufacturers present from all parts of the South and grade-marking and trade-marking of lumber and trade association activities furnished the principal subjects for discussion.

The directors approved the recommendation of the Advertising and Trade-Extension committees that the Association offer a prize of \$1,000 to the person devising the best and most efficient method and means for grade-marking Southern Pine.

The directors recommended and the subscribers unanimously adopted a resolution to the effect that since the Southern Pine Association has been the pioneer organization to put grade-marking into effect, and has devoted several years' time and study and considerable expense to working out the system, that the Association offer through Secretary of Commerce Hoover, to manufacturers of all other species of lumber throughout the country, the benefit of the experience gained by the Southern Pine Association in this movement and that the Association stands ready and willing to impart this knowledge to all who are interested and to send representatives to the groups of manufacturers of other species to render whatever assistance may be necessary in making grade-marking and trade-marking of lumber effective.

Various speakers commenting on this resolution mentioned that this action showed the pine manufacturers were taking a broad and public spirited attitude in this movement for the benefit of other lumber producers and the consuming public.

The general meeting of subscribers also adopted a motion instructing the Secretary-Manager to write to each subscriber who is not grade-marking his product stating that after August 15th, 1925, the secretary shall be authorized to furnish, on request, to dealers, architects, contractors and consumers of lumber, a list of the subscriber mills that are grade-marking their output. It was stated in discussion of this resolution that a large number of requests have been received for names of the manufacturers who are grade-marking their product, but that a number of the subscribers have been delayed putting the practice into effect at their mills for various reasons and it was deemed desirable to defer the giving out of lists of those who are grade-marking until all the subscribers have had opportunity to definitely decide on that action.

The subscribers voted unanimously to continue the assessment of three cents per thousand feet on the shipments of all mills that are grade-marking which funds are to be used in continuing the widespread advertising campaign to establish grade-marking lumber throughout the country.

There were about 150 prominent lumber manufacturers in the Gold Room at the Claridge Hotel Tuesday morning, when President E. A. Frost of Shreveport, called the general meeting of subscribers to order. In his address on the "Economic Highlights of 1925", Mr. Frost asserted that every satisfied factor of any consequence points unmistakably to a volume of production and distribution heretofore unequalled. Bank debits for the first five months average nearly 20 per cent above normal, he said; freight car loadings for the same period averaged 11 per cent above normal; the volume of bank loans has expanded liberally under an easy money market; the stock market has been unusually active and there are further indications that the present period of industrial prosperity has marked stability and gives no suspicion of any sudden reaction.

Preliminary reports from agricultural districts, the speaker said, are, in the main, very encouraging, showing an early crop outlook somewhat above normal. A notable record has been established by the building industry, the volume for the first five months of this year exceeding that of the same period last year, which was the banner building year in the nation's history. The Southern Pine industry, Mr. Frost mentioned, is an outstanding example of the great industrial activity that has so eminently characterized this year. Production of southern pine in the first four months, averaged 101.64 per cent of normal, this being the first year that production for this period has exceeded normal since 1916. Southern pine

shipments for the first four months of 1925 averaged more than 98 per cent of normal, orders averaged over 97 per cent of normal and stocks on hand at the end of April were about 91 per cent of normal.

Mr. Frost said the cost of producing, selling and shipping Southern pine for March, 1925, averaged \$23.55 per thousand feet, which was the lowest monthly cost average reported since May, 1923. The average F. O. B. mill price of Southern pine, all grades and dimension, as reported by the Kansas City statistical exchange for the month of May showed a decline of two percent from January, but a gain of nearly seven percent over May a year ago. Exports of Southern Pine through Gulf ports for the first four months of this year, showed an increase of 6-6 percent over the corresponding period of 1924, and it was the heaviest first four months aggregate on records that extend back to and including 1916.

TENNANT ITEMS

R. B. Hawkins, wife and daughter, Harmony, spent Sunday with Mrs. Hawkins' mother, Mrs. Cora Burkey at Dunsmuir, Calif.

The ball game Sunday between Pelican Bay and Tennant resulted in the score of 7 to 6 in favor of Tennant.

Miss Pearl Flock of Weed was a guest at the home of Mrs. Dale Boeson the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Johannson from Kelso, Wash., are visiting with Mrs. Johannson's sister, Mrs. Alvan Oppered. Mr. Johannson was in an explosion some months ago and suffered the loss of both eyes and other injuries, but is very cheerful about it and says he is glad to be here.

Tennant is experiencing a spell of very warm weather. The thermometer registered 100 at 4 p. m. in the postoffice two days this week, which is extreme weather for this place.

In the absence of the regular pastor, Dr. F. S. Ford, services were conducted Sunday night by J. J. Murphy, who gave a very interesting talk. All who heard him will be pleased to know that he will speak again this coming Sunday, with a song service a half hour before the speaking.

L. A. Majors, wife and niece, Miss Hattie Majors, left Friday for their old home at Martinez, Calif. They were accompanied by O. S. Jempsky, who went with them for a few weeks' vacation.

Mrs. George Murphy and children spent a few days this week with her mother, Mrs. J. B. McLaughlin at Weed.

Mrs. Max Filson, assistant in the postoffice, was quite ill the first of the week with a bad sore throat but is able to be around at present.

John Shaw, auditor of the Westover Lumber Co., at Westover, Calif., accompanied by Mr. Smith of the same company, were business guests in camp the fore part of the week.

When Dr. and Mrs. Sandie returned to camp they came by auto, shipping their trunks by express from Los Angeles. The doctor's came through all right, but Mrs. Sandie's seemed to be lost en route, but after tracing and wiring it showed up about three weeks after it was shipped.

Mr. Ready of the firm of Murray & Ready, employment agents, of San Francisco, is visiting W. D. Vance.

C. Hogue, foreman at the machine shops, left Tuesday for a week's visit with his family at Escalon, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Norris arrived in camp Friday evening from Weed for a visit among old friends. Mr. Norris was with the Tennant Mercantile Co. last summer.

The dance given by the Tennant Amusement club Friday night, while not so well attended on account of the extreme warm weather, still afforded a good time to those who did attend.

Wheeler-Olmstead Puts New Surface On Road To Mill

A new roadway leading to the mill and offices of the Wheeler-Olmstead company was constructed during the past week. The old planked road across the marsh was utilized by planking it up on the sides and filling the trough with many carloads of red cinders. Company employees are now assured a good road, winter or summer, from the mill and offices to the junction of the road with the Dallas-California highway, about a mile away.

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