

West Coast's Big Lumber Industry Appears Ready To Swing Into High Tempo As Soon As Weather Permits

By LELAND HANNUM
SEATTLE, Jan. 30 (AP)—The west coast's giant lumber industry, with unfilled orders on its books earlier this month for more than 700,000,000 board feet of lumber, appears to be ready to swing into high tempo as soon as weather permits.

The current outlook for this area's major industry, as seen by the U. S. employment service, is that sufficient manpower is now available. The paralyzing lumber strike has ended, except for a few holdouts. Demand is heavy. But heavy snows in most logging areas will prevent full employment before March or April.

The closely allied industries—lumber manufacturing, pulp and paper mills and plywood mills—are running at capacity. Their manpower shortages are over.

The West Coast Lumbermen's association, summarizing reports from its member mills, said the industry's unfilled order file stood at 738,232,000 board feet at the end of 1945, with gross stocks on hand of only 400,405,000.

The cumulative production for the 52 weeks of last year was 5,799,672,000 board feet, against 7,902,289,000 in 1944.

Since V-J Day, the association recalled, "the industry has met one crisis after another. It faces market conditions which defy prediction, because they are new and changing."

"For example, there is the civilian production administration's priority regulation 33, on lumber and nine other building materials, to promote the building of dwellings costing \$10,000 or less.

"Lumbermen are as much in the dark on the effect priority 33 may have on their business as they were on war demands for lumber at this time last year.

Crippling Strike
"V-J Day brought cancellations of military orders for nearly 300,000,000 board feet of west coast lumber. Then came a crippling strike. Nationally, building construction has continued to mark time because of scarcity of building labor and the low supply of 10 key materials."

The Washington state department of unemployment compensation and placement said that more and more veterans are returning to the labor mart, but the critical housing shortage makes it difficult to obtain workers for certain job openings in many communities.

Coupled with that is the desire to increase all sorts of heavy construction activities in order to employ unskilled workers.

Meantime, with the strikes over, heavy snows in the mountainous lumbering areas have caused seasonal layoffs of many logging crews.

Coast Guard Warns Of Large Icebergs
SEATTLE, Jan. 30 (AP)—Large icebergs have been noted in the Stephens passage area between Point Hugh and Midway islands on the Alaska route, the coast guard reported last night.

Mariners were warned to watch carefully for drifting mines along the Alaska coast, and one mine was reported sunk by gunfire at the entrance to Prince William sound.

The World Today

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
AP World Traveler

MADRID, Jan. 30—When you set out to delve into the private life of Generalissimo Franco you soon discover that, as an American friend of mine here laughingly puts it, "there is not any."

That may strike many folks as a strange view of the glaring black marks in the allied books as a result of Franco's name. Indeed I think we can put him down as an anomaly, for he is a curious mixture of many things.

Franco lives after the fashion of a studious professor, but in the surroundings of a king. I do not mean that he is at all a humble person, for he is definitely not, but his personal wants apparently are simple. He likes hunting in winter and fishes patiently and assiduously during his summer vacation. Beyond that he likes to stay at home.

The Franco family—the generalissimo, his wife and their daughter—live in the ancient town of El Pardo, eight and a half miles from Madrid, in one of the royal palaces, it was there, amidst all the gorgeous trappings of monarchy, that I had a long talk with him—one of the few newspaper interviews he has granted.

Heavily Protected
Naturally it was not surprising to find the generalissimo heavily protected against intruders. I arrived in El Pardo half an hour ahead of my appointment and utilized this time in looking over the quaint old place. The palace stands in the heart of El Pardo, within high walls, and I remarked to myself as I started to stroll about that if the Spanish secret police were on the job I was likely to be picked up, for I obviously was a stranger.

Sure enough, within a few minutes an alert little man popped up from nowhere, flashed his secret service badge on me and smilingly but firmly wanted to know something of my history and intentions. He



MacKENZIE

soon was satisfied, although I have no doubt he kept me under surveillance until the big squad of armed officers at the palace gate had examined our car and party and had passed us inside.

At the entrance, by the way, were two of the generalissimo's famous Moorish mounted bodyguards which have caused considerable heart-burnings in some quarters because many Spaniards do not like the Moors. These fellows were sitting proudly on their horses like statues, with spiked steel helmets blazing in the sun through the tops of their turbans, and lances erect against their stirrups.

Sure of Himself
I soon discovered that Franco's mind works swiftly and that he seems very sure of himself. You hear it said that he has no nerves. Be that as it may, I was struck by the calmness and affability with which he received and answered the more than blunt questions I put to him. Nine men out of ten would have become angry at the nature of my inquiries, but if he was annoyed he certainly did not show it.

The chief of state also looks so very fit physically in his military uniform at the age of 55 that he might easily be mistaken for 45. This probably is partly a heritage of his vigorous African campaigns as a young officer—service which brought him a brigadier generalship at the age of 34. Another reason for his physical well being may be that he is said to be a light eater and does not use tobacco or alcohol.

900 Empty Box Cars Ordered
WASHINGTON, Jan. 30 (AP)—The interstate commerce commission notified Senator Mitchell (D-Wash.) it has ordered 900 empty box cars turned over to two railroads in transporting wheat from elevators to mills and docks in Washington, Oregon and California.

Mitchell said the cars, most of them to be sent to Washington, were allotted to the Great Northern and the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific roads.

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Flashes Of Life

KITTY MOVES IN
NEW YORK, Jan. 30 (AP)—Kitty Kouncil, a wee bit of a cat born in County Limerick in Eire, took up residence today in city hall where an old County Mayo boy, Mayor William O'Dwyer, is head man.

The cat stowed away aboard a Pan American world airways clipper at Shannon, County Limerick, and was presented to city hall by an airline stewardess. Originally she was dubbed O'Clipper, but city hall attaches decided Kitty Kouncil would be more appropriate.

DOG'S LIFE
BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 30 (AP)—Seven-year-old Patty Peck thought she was in the "dog house" because she stayed away from home to play—so she slept there.

Her foster mother, Mrs. James Pfeiffer, said Patty was found in the dog kennel after a night-long search.

OPTIMIST
MOSCOW, Idaho, Jan. 30 (AP)—Registrar D. D. Dusenut of the University of Idaho was surprised when informed a load of household goods had arrived from California—\$97 C.O.D.

He was more surprised when he discovered the goods were sent by a prospective student, who, apparently, hadn't heard about the housing shortage at Idaho.

PARALYZED PONIES
PARSONS, Kas., Jan. 30 (AP)—Horsepower on the roof delayed horsepower on the rail for four hours when five runaway animals got stuck in the cross-ties of a railroad bridge near here.

East Oregon Roads Said Hazardous

SALEM, Jan. 30 (AP)—Highways in mountains and eastern Oregon were hazardous today as temperatures dropped toward the zero mark, the state highway commission reported.

Lowest temperature reported was 18 degrees below zero at Lapine on the Dalles-California highway near Bend. It was 12 below at Sun Mountain pass on the same highway, while it was zero in Klamath Falls.

The daily road report: Government Camp—Overcast, 21 degrees, 76 inches total snow. Packed snow throughout district.

Santiam Junction—26 degrees, broken overcast, packed snow is being sanded. Quite slippery, chains advised. Total snow at summit 119 inches, at junction 70 inches.

Odell Lake—Clear, 5 degrees. Total snow at summit 141 inches, 12 inches new snow. Sanding crews operating. Chains advised. One-way traffic between Oakridge and summit.

Siskiyou Summit—Clear, 16 degrees, 12 miles of packed snow on Pacific highway. Chains absolutely necessary.

12 Below
Klamath Falls—Temperature 12 below on Sun mountain on the Dalles-California highway, total snow 105 inches, roads all

sanded. One below on Greensprings highway, light fog, roads sanded, 10 below on Quartz mountain, roads sanded.

Eugene—Broken clouds, some ice on pavement, being sanded. Roseburg—Foggy.

Astoria—Columbia highway closed at east city limits of Astoria short detour. One-way traffic on Oregon Coast highway near Manzanita.

Coquille—Foggy, icy pavement, being sanded.

The Dalles—Partially overcast, roads normal.

Pendleton—Broken clouds, pavement dry, frosty in shaded spots.

Meacham—Packed snow on Old Oregon Trail east of milepost 245, being sanded.

La Grande—Overcast, pavement slick.

Baker—Clear, half-inch of new snow. Pavement slick.

Bend—Two inches new snow at Lapine last night, road icy, being sanded.

Burns—Scattered clouds, light skiff of snow.

John Day—Traffic now normal north of Service creek. Scattered clouds, one inch of new snow.

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