

Lumbermen Fear Product May Become No. 1 Problem

BY HERBERT CHESHIRE
United Press Staff
Correspondent

ATLANTA, Ga., June 12—(AP)—Available supplies of lumber are rapidly increasing in the South, and industry sources predicted today that the lumber business may turn into a number one economic problem unless government controls are removed.

The U. S. Department of agriculture concentration yards had 219,492,000 more board feet of lumber at the end of March than on January 31.

The bottom dropped out of the low grade lumber market in Georgia several weeks ago, and dozens of mills closed temporarily in the face of a price drop from \$80 to \$50 a thousand feet. Retail prices in Columbia, S. C., have dropped from \$100 a thousand feet six months ago to around \$65, and one leading dealer there said "the prices are so low, dealers are not selling any more than they have to. It costs more to bring the lumber out of the woods than you can get for it."

Prices Decline
Reports from Birmingham, Ala., where that lumber buyers aren't taking just anything they can find in the yards now. Common grades are down about 30 per cent from previous levels, a United Press survey showed.

"The people are beginning to

exercise their privilege of demanding just what they ordered instead of taking what they can get," a spokesman said. Housing construction in Birmingham dropped off a month ago and there were no predictions that it would return to previous levels until—as one spokesman put it—"the theorists in Washington let supply and demand take care of itself."

The price of building supplies in North Carolina is down from 30 to 40 per cent below the cost of a few months ago and a number of lumber companies are reported liquidating current supplies without buying more standing timber.

Fear Sharp Drop
Some North Carolina dealers said they feared that unless government restrictions on the industry are eased, "the bottom will drop out of this business." They said there has been a sharp drop in demand and that an overall decrease of 15 per cent in building costs is anticipated soon.

A lumber source in Little Rock, Ark., predicts a general decrease of 15 to 20 per cent in all lumber prices before the end of the year.

Does this mean a general decrease in the cost of home construction. The industry says, no. They point out that lumber costs are a relatively small item in the price of a dwelling. One of the big items is labor. Brick is still expensive and hard to get.

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

By Alley

COMIN' BY DE GRAVE
YAH'D LAS' NIGHT, A
BIG RABBIT JUMP
UP RIGHT IN FRONT
O' ME! I THOUGHT
I WUZ A GONER SHO!



(Released by The Bill Brydson Co., Inc. Trade Mark Reg. U. S. Pat. Office) 6-13-47

BUTTERCOOKIES
OPEN A PASTRY SHOP
LONG BEACH, N. Y. — (AP)—Following in the footsteps of four generations of Buttercookies, Paul and his wife, Jeanette, have opened a pastry shop in this Long Island seaside resort. Paul says his name started in Warsaw, Poland.

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FROM THE RELISH TRAY
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QUEENS,
Plain or Stuffed
NEW PACK—
AT YOUR DEALERS
MONARCH
Finer OLIVES

HUGE FLOWER CROP SLATED AT ORTON

Thousands Of Camellia, Azalea And Other Plants Are Prepared

BY BILL KEZIAH
Star Correspondent

SOUTHPORT, June 12—With a general belief that it will be the most valuable single crop ever grown on any single farm or plantation in Brunswick county, the Orton Plantation nursery is now preparing to start hundreds of thousands of camellia, azalea and other plants in its greenhouses. Next spring these plants will be transplanted to the open grounds and during the next two and three years the camellia will go on sale at prices ranging from about \$2.00 to \$10.00 each, depending on the variety.

The azaleas and others plants, marketed at the same time will, for the most part, have lesser prices.

Illustrative of the planting now ready to start, more than 75,000 camellias and a still greater number of azaleas and other plants have recently been transferred from the greenhouses to the open grounds. Three or four acres being required for this new planting. These plants were all started in the greenhouses last summer and their removal makes way for a still larger number to be started this summer. Additional greenhouse space is also available this year.

Bill Hyatt, graduate of the University of Florida school of horticulture last week, arrived Thursday to start the new planting. Hyatt supervised last summer's work of filling the greenhouses.

Although the marketing of plants takes two, three and even four years after the plants are started in the greenhouses, the plans are understood to be to put out a huge number of plants each year and those that are started this summer will really constitute just one year's crop. With around a hundred thousand camellia plants to be started this year, to say nothing of as many more other plants, the claims of a valuable crop can readily be understood.

The same goes for plumbing fixtures, screen wire, hard wood products, trimming and rockwool for insulation. Plaster and cement supplies are improving.

Supplies Mount

On January 31, mills and concentration yards of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee, had 1,341,321,000 board feet of lumber on hand, whereas, on March 31 this accumulation had grown to 1,560,813,000 board feet, according to a government survey. Only Tennessee registered a slight decrease for the latter period.

The lumber figures were announced by the Commerce department's census bureau, which also showed that stocks on hand in the South on March 31 compared with 4,443,548,000 board feet on hand for the nation as a whole. The national accumulation was 416,525,000 board feet above that for January 31.

Stocks at mills and yards in the South on March 31, by states, and those of January 31 follow:

Alabama, January 31, 312,535,000 board feet, and March 31, 355,204,000 feet; Florida, 43,001,000 and 61,661,000; Georgia, 277,629,000 and 312,040,000; Mississippi, 303,884,000 and 363,250,000; North Carolina, 157,653,000 and 197,016,000; South Carolina, 156,860,000 and 182,061,000; and Tennessee, 89,735,000 and 89,581,000.

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DRESSING	Qt. Jar	27c
Iona Brand		
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Encore Prepared		
SPAGHETTI	2 16 1/4-Oz. Glass	25c
Hunt's		
TOMATO SAUCE	8-Oz. Can	5c
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BEANS	2 No. 2 Cans	25c
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LEMONS, doz. 25c

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Brookfield & Cloverbloom	
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OLEO, lb.	39c
Carnation Evaporated	
MILK, 3 tall cans	36c
Baker's Shredded	
COCONUT, pkg.	22c
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JEWEL	1 lb. pkg. 33c 3 lb. pkg. 97c
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