

# ETS NEUTRALITY ACT linch National Pennant

*Bordeaux Mill Puffs Last Smoky Farewell  
To Half-Century-Long Saga Of Singing Saws*



THIS IS the swan song of a logging town. The picture was taken by a Daily Olympian photographer just before the last log passed through the mill, writing finish to almost 50 years of industry. The main mill, the tall smokestack shown spouting its black column into the sky, closed down on Tuesday. Soon the small houses, shown peeking out of the small timber on the hillside, will be empty. And Bordeaux will take its place among the ghost towns

of Washington. The reason? There are no more logs worth cutting. At production peak, the logging operation employed almost 700 men. As camps began shutting down, the payroll dwindled. The several hundred who will be out of jobs after the cleaning up is finished in a few weeks are glad that the operation is closing down now instead of during a time when jobs are few and far between.

# It's Swan Song For Lumber Town

(From Page One)

ago. Last Tuesday the main mill of the Mason County Logging Company stopped. Now it's all over but the cleaning up. The planing mill will run for several weeks yet. A small crew will be kept on hand to run it.

## Mill Created Town

During the almost 50 years that the mill has been singing its song, a whole town has sprung up around it. At first there was just a camp. As operations expanded and more men were hired the company erected houses. A hotel was built. Several stores and a post office were also erected. At one time there were 700 men working for the company and the other operations necessary for its industry.

George Brazel, an Olympian who will be 84 years old this December, remembers the time when he supervised a total of 700 men at the operation. Brazel was the man who cut the first bush in that area.

In the Summer of 1896, Brazel was hired by the logging company to cruise the area. He worked four months, and in the Fall of that year had run a survey eight miles in from the Northern Pacific tracks to South Cedar Creek.

The survey completed, Brazel then worked for several years opening the Shelton camp for the Mason County Logging Company. In January, 1900, he was put in charge of a crew to grade a road where he had run his survey into the present Bordeaux area. The crews laid tracks into the woods for three miles, built the main camp where Bordeaux now is and in June of that year started logging.

Brazel was foreman for several years, was later made superintendent of the operation, a position he held until the latter 1920's.

## Has Long History

A. H. Anderson, another pioneer lumberman, joined the Bordeaux brothers in building the town and the mills. Since the first log was

out, the mills have been running practically without a break. Now they're all through.

And what about the town? The houses will still be there. But they'll be empty. It will be just another ghost town.

The Bordeaux workers, several hundred of them who will be without jobs, have no grudge against the company. They know that it takes logs to run a mill. They know that the logs are all gone. It's just one of those things. Most of them are thankful that the mill is going down now, instead of during a time when jobs are more scarce. Most of them already have new jobs lined up—jobs in veneer plants, in national defense industries. They're thankful the mill didn't shut down in 1931 or 1932.

The other day, the Mason County Logging Company filed papers with the secretary of state, extending the time of the company's existence until 1952. But the papers weren't filed with the idea of continuing the company.

The old incorporation papers would have expired next July. The existence of the company was continued in order that it could legally quit and liquidate its assets.

Maryland's population increased from 1,631,526 to 1,811,546 between 1930 and 1940.

# Civic Mus

September 29

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