

# The Miner-Echo

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## Modern Sawmill at Ronald Boosts Economy

### Patrick & Mauk Plan Annual Production Of Eight Million Feet

Marking the latest expansion of the lumbering industry in the Upper County, the modern new Patrick & Mauk sawmill now is in full operation just above Ronald following a shakedown cruise.

Construction of the sawmill began in April, 1960, and it put out more than a million board feet from August until shutting down last fall to add the planer mill, chipper, dry kiln and other improvements. That work continued through the winter.

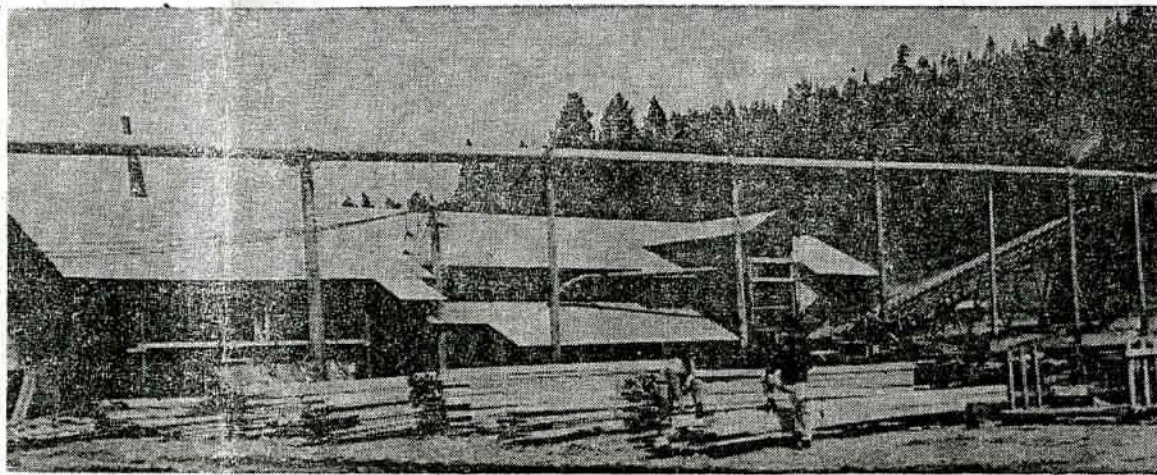
Mill operation resumed May 8, and the mill cut 73,000 board feet Monday — a new high. It will average between 45,000 and 50,000 feet a day and, running nine months a year, should have an annual output of about 8 million board feet, President Harry S. Patrick said.

Patrick and Mauk also are shipping five or six carloads of wood chips each week to pulp mills. In addition, they have a commercial reloading service for pulp logs that others wish to ship.

About 40 men are working in the mill operation itself plus another 25 in the woods and 5 hauling — a total of between 70 and 75 men being employed directly by the new firm.

Site of the mill is a 20-acre site occupied years ago by the Roslyn Fuel Co. mine. Big slag piles are still in evidence around the borders of the area.

The hillside for several acres just back of the mill has been denuded of trees to give better fire

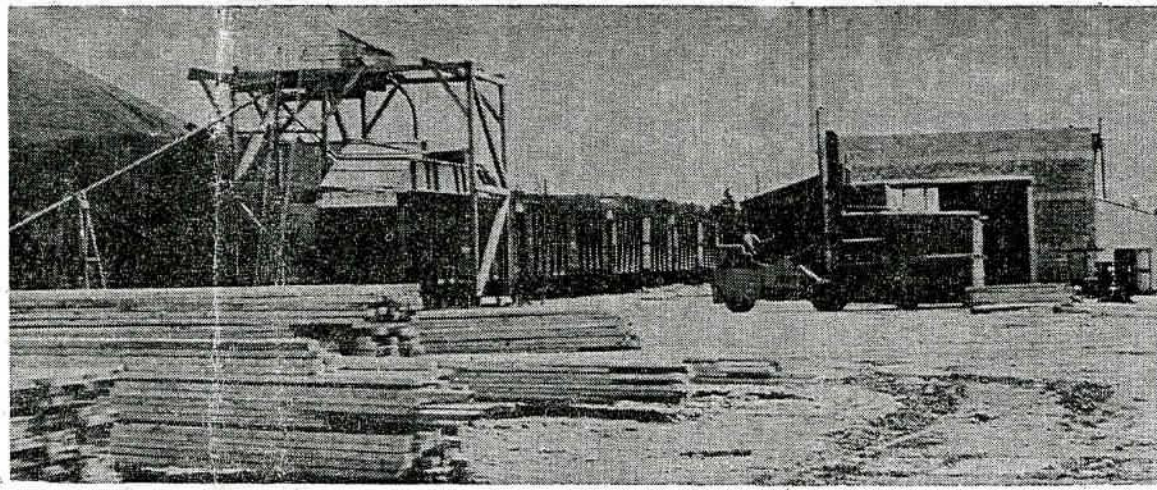


—(Miner-Echo photos).

Top photo: Archibald and Harry S. Patrick, standing by the nearest pile of lumber in the foreground, are dwarfed by the main building of the Patrick & Mauk sawmill, now in full operation above Ronald. The big overhead pipe is carrying sawdust from the planer mill to the burner at the

extreme right.

Bottom photo: This view, looking east from the sawmill, shows the chip loading tower at the left and the dry kiln building at the right with Bror Lindberg operating the loader in front of it. For other pictures of the new mill, see page 5.



## - More About New Patrick & Mauk Sawmill -

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mill to a motorized barker that operates like a lathe in removing all the bark.

A press roll clamps the peeled log as it advances to a gang of 12 vertical saws where, in one operation, the log is transformed into two-inch fir or hemlock planks.

Next in the modern assembly-line routine is the edger, which squares off the rough edges; then the trimmer, run by man in push-button fashion, cuts the lumber to desired lengths.

In the huge dry kiln east of the mill, the lumber is sprayed with live steam so it will dry from the inside out while six seven-foot electric fans are circulating the air.

Final step before loading the lumber for shipment takes place at the planing mill, which produces the desired smooth surface.

Wood chips from the sawmill are blown through a separating screen and via a six-inch pipe to the loading tower, from which they drop directly into open-top box cars on the siding ready for their trips to the pulp mill.

A cone-shaped trash burner disposes of the discards and the sawdust from the planer.

Officers of the new firm are Patrick president; his son, Archibald S. Patrick, vice president and general manager; John S. Mauk of Seattle, treasurer; Delos McNutt of Seattle, vice president; Mrs. Colleen Major, secretary; Marshall Foerster, logging superintendent.

Other stockholders are Joe M. Starceovich, Bror Lindberg and Harold Browitt.

McNutt is president of Mauk Seattle Lumber Co. and Mauk is that firm's board chairman. All lumber from the Ronald mill will be handled by Mauk Seattle exclusively, Patrick said.

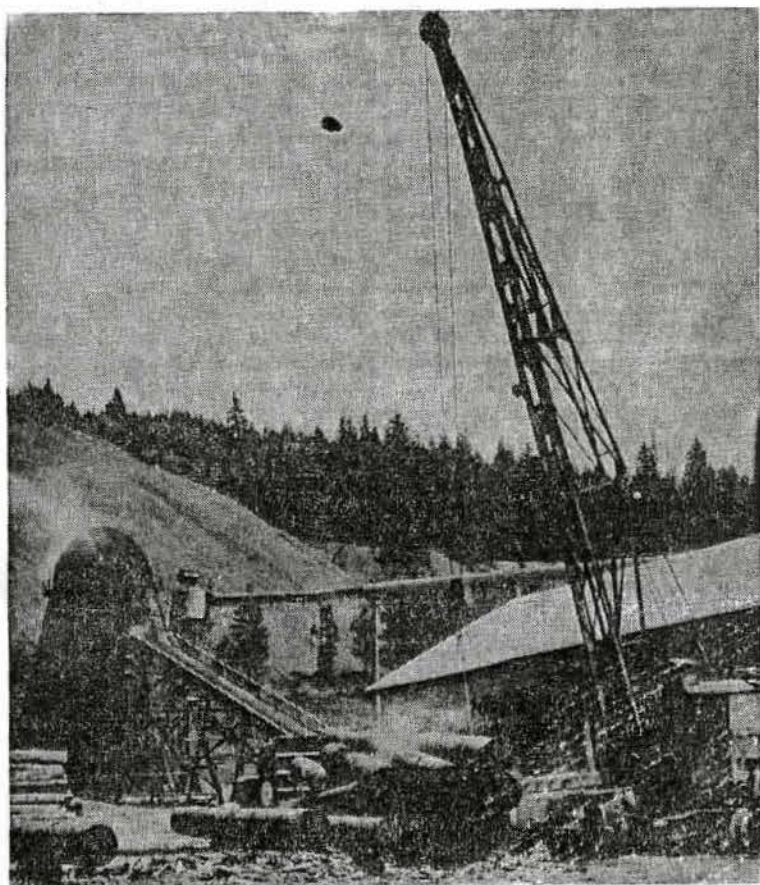
Most of the men working at the sawmill are local residents, many of them former employees in the Patrick coal mine. Some key personnel, however, came here from the coast, including Herb Roose, general superintendent, who has had wide experience in logging, lumbering and mill operation.

Others are Clarence Swanson, millwright; his son Don, gang saw operator; Homer Alwood, in charge of the planer and a grader approved by the West Coast Lumbermen's association; John Hanson chipperman and log scaler; Darwin Rabe, edgerman; and Elbert Webb, another approved lumber grader.

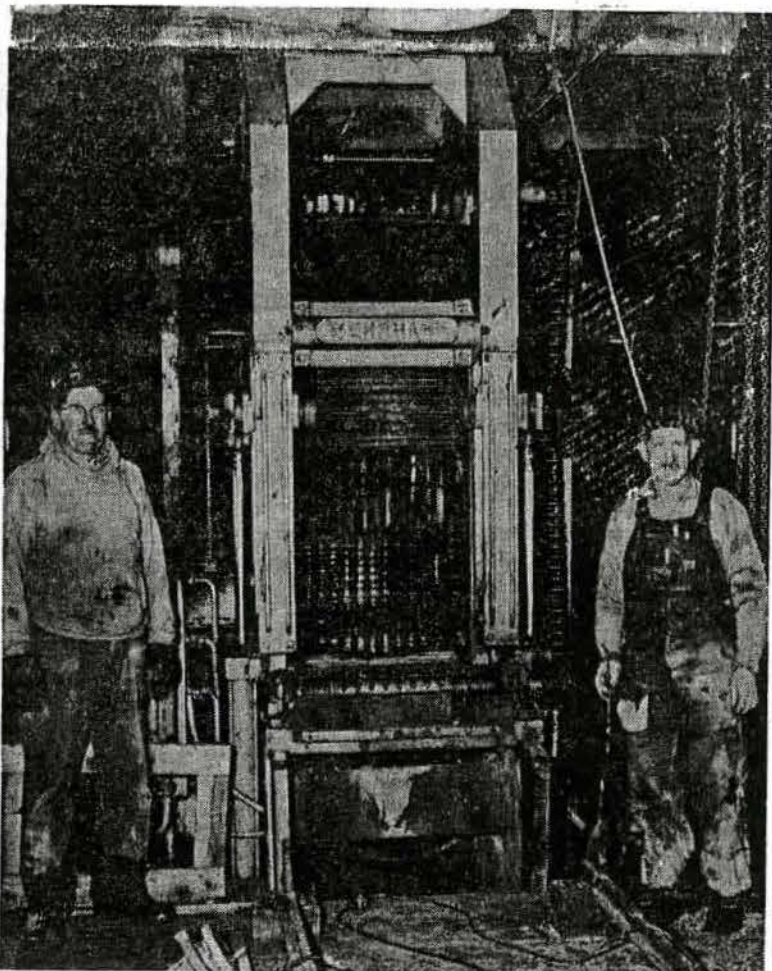
These men and their families added 22 persons to the Upper County population, Patrick pointed out.



Left to right, Archie Patrick, Supt. Herb Roose and Harry Patrick stand in front of the huge-tired Michigan log loader at the new Patrick & Mauk sawmill.



Assisted by the big crane, these white fir and hemlock logs spill off the truck after its arrival in the yard from the woods. In the background are the burner, a corner of the main sawmill building and, farther back, the old coal mine dump.



Clarence Swanson, left, and Bror Lindberg stand by the gang saw, which can take a log up to 28 inches in diameter and change it into two-inch lumber planks in one, swift operation. —(Miner-Echo photos)