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Korbel Sawmill Research Notes

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**Korbel Sawmill
Research Notes
Fall 2015**

Ownerships

Deeds 8:53 (14 March 1883) Frederick H. and Maggie Burg of Humboldt County to Francis Korbel of San Francisco for \$1500, SW qt SW qt, S half NW qt SW qt sec 28, 6N2E, 60 acres, excepting 10 acres near W line SW qt SW qt sec 28 with cabin thereon, now occupied by James Counts after the timber shall have been cut and removed by Korbel.

Deeds 8:342 (2 April 1883) Francis Korbel to Humboldt Lumber Mill Co., SW qt SW qt, S half NW qt SW qt sec 28, 6N2E, about 60 acres except 10 acres.

Deeds 8:348 (13 April 1883) E.L. Cutten and Joseph Stalder to Humboldt Lumber and Mill Co. W half SE qt, SE qt SE qt sec 29; NE qt NE qt sec 32, 6N2E, [more]

Deeds 8:344 (30 April 1883) Joseph and Elizabeth Hess to Humboldt Lumber and Mill Co., NW qt NW qt sec 28; N half NE qt, SE qt NE qt sec 29, 6N2E, 160 acres (patents 3:614); W half SE qt, SE qt SE qt sec 20; SW qt SW qt sec 21, 6N2E (patents 3:616); SE qt NE qt, NE qt SE qt sec 28, SW qt NW qt, NW qt SW qt sec 27, 6N1E (patents 3:618), excepting SE qt NE qt sec 28; SE qt SE qt sec 28 S half SW qt, NE qt SW qt sec 27, 6N2E (patents 3:19. [more]

Deeds 8:691 (23 May 1883) F.H. Burg to Humboldt Lumber and Mill Co. W portion of and near W line SW qt SW qt sec 28, 6N1E, with cabin thereon, 10 acres.

Deeds 11:132 (6 Dec. 1883) Alexander Brizard to Humboldt Lumber and Mill Co., SW qt NW qt, N half NW qt SW qt sec 28, NE qt SE qt sec 29, 6N2E, 100 acres.

Deeds 20:126 (26 Oct. 1886) C.A. Hooper of San Francisco to Humboldt Lumber and Mill Co. First. SW qt NE qt, N half NE qt, NE qt NW qt, S half SW qt sec 3; S half sec 4; SE qt sec 5; N half NE qt, SE qt NE qt sec 8, N half, SE qt, N half SW qt, SE qt SW qt sec 9; all sec 10; NW qt sec 15; NE qt NW qt, S half NE qt, NW qt SE qt sec 13; 43/48 interest in sec 16; all in 5N2E. Second. One-half interest: E half SW qt, W half SE qt sec 3; S half NE qt, SE qt NW qt, NE qt SW qt sec 5; NE qt sec 7; S half NW qt, N half SW qt sec 8, N half SE qt, SE qt SE qt sec 11; NE qt SE qt sec 14; E half SW qt, SE qt sec 15; NE qt sec 21; E half NW qt sec 22; NE qt sec 23, all in 5N2E.

Third. W half SW qt, SE qt SW qt sec 5, E half SE qt, SW qt SE qt sec 6; N half NW qt, SW qt NE qt, SE qt sec 8; SW qt SW qt sec 9; N half SW qt, SW qt SW qt sec 11; W half SW qt, SE qt SW qt, SW qt NW qt sec 12; E half NE qt sec 17; W half, SE qt SE qt sec 23; N half NW qt sec 25; NE qt NE qt sec 26, 5N2E.

\$100,000 in payments. Original agreement at Deeds 19:25 signed by C.H. Hooper and for the Humboldt Lumber and Mill Co., F. Korbel, president, and E.L. Cutten, secretary. [total about 5000 acres]

Deeds 23:660 (20 Sept. 1887) John K and Alpha Allard to Francis, Anton and Joseph Korbel, composing firm of F. Korbel & Bros. of S.F., right of way for railroad across SW qt sec 32, 6N2E, 15 feet wide on each side of the located center of line of Arcata and Mad River railroad.

Deeds 23:612 (5 Oct. 1887) Frank Graham of Humboldt Co. to Frank Korbel, S.F., right of way for railroad across SW qt NW qt sec 5, 5N2E, entering said land on W line as near as practicable to bank of Mad River; thence easterly to S line thereof. Reserving timber on right of way.

Deeds 24:178 (4 Nov. 1887) Francis Bincaz to Francis, Anton and Joseph Korbel of Korbel & Bros., S.F., right of way for railroad across SE qt SE qt sec 31, 6N2E.

Deeds 82:246 (14 Feb. 1903) Riverside Lumber Co. to Northern Redwood Lumber Co., 49995.62 acres. Riverside Lumber Co., H.W. Jackson, president, Frank Graham, secretary.

Deeds 83:543 (21 March 1903) The Charles Nelson Company to Northern Redwood Lumber Co. three tracts totaling 680 acres.

BLA (4 April 1903) Real Estate Transactions. The Charles Nelson Company to Northern Redwood Lumber Co., SE qt SE qt sec 12; E half NE qt NE qt SE qt sec 13; S half sec 21, 5N2E; lot 4 sec 7, lots 1, 2, and 3, sec 18, 5N3E.

Official Records 386:91 (27 March 1956) Northern Redwood Lumber Co. to Simpson Redwood Co., all real property and interests therein situate in County of Humboldt: Exhibit A

Land in sections 7, 17, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 5N2E

Land in sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 5N3E

Land in sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, 6N2E

Land in sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 30, 6N3E

Land in sections 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 32, 34, 36, 7N2E

Land in sections 6, 7, 30, 31, 32, 7N3E

Land in sections 1, 2, 12, 13, 24, 25, 8N2E

Land in sections 6, 7, 18, 19, 30, 31, 8N3E

[many of these were entire sections]

References

WHT (23 July 1881) New Railroad and Lumber Mill—Articles of incorporation were filed yesterday of the Arcata and Mad River Railroad company. The purposes of the corporation are set forth to be the construction of a single track narrow gauge railroad to be operated by steam and horse power, the same to be constructed from the main ship channel to the northerly end of Humboldt Bay, to the north fork of Mad river, passing through the town of Arcata for the transportation of freight and passengers. The estimated length of the road is 15 miles. The directors for the first year are G.B.W. Yocom, R.M. Fernald, B. Deming, Austin Wiley and E.A. Deming. The capital stock is \$60,000, divided into 3,000 shares of par value of \$20 each. The

stock subscribed for is as follows. G.W.B. Yocom 372 shares, \$7,440; R.M. Fernald 372 shares, \$7,440; B. Deming, A. Wiley and E.A. Deming each two shares worth \$40.

It is the purpose of the new corporation, which absorbs the Arcata transportation company, to immediately begin the construction of an addition to the present line, the terminus to be on Mad river to a point opposite Vance's mill. A lumber mill will be built at this place, which is situated on the claim of Cullberg, Minor and Kirk and the principal object of the new road is to transport lumber from the new mill to the end of Arcata wharf, there to be loaded onto vessels. N.B. Falk of the firm of Falk and Chandler left for San Francisco this morning to order the machinery for the mill. Two of the directors of the new railroad corporation also went below to purchase the iron for the railroad. The wooden rails now in use will be replaced by new iron track over the entire length of the road.

WHT (20 Aug. 1881) A gang of 25 Chinamen is at work on the Arcata & Mad River Railroad, the men received \$1.50 a day. An additional number will be supplied for the work.

WHT (20 Aug. 1881) Sunday's daily. Railroad Building—Work was commenced on the Arcata and Mad River Railroad last Monday, which will be an extension of the Arcata Transportation Company's road from the present terminus at the Dolly Varden mill to Minor's Mill on Mad River, a distance of 3½ miles. The track over the old line of road will be relaid with laurel rails, the high price of iron at present precluding the laying of rails of that material. The wharf will also be thoroughly reconstructed. Iron rails will be laid on the new line. A five-ton locomotive has been ordered and will arrive during this fall.

WHT (15 July 1882) C. Chartin of Blue Lake, Mad River, was in town yesterday. He tells us that he has leased his property for a term of fifteen years to G.W. Chandler and others, who have entered into an agreement to build a sawmill on the property within two years. The lake is being cleaned out and will be used as a pond for holding logs. The mill will be steam power and will have a cutting capacity of eight or ten million feet of lumber per annum. Chandler & Co. have also entered into an agreement with the Arcata and Mad River Railroad Co. to carry their lumber to tide water. The railroad company will extend the road from the present terminus at Warren Creek to Blue Lake and will have to bridge Mad river. A fine body of timber will be tapped by this means and the whole North Fork country will soon be opened up.

Demo. Standard (13 Jan. 1883) Letter from Arcata—A few days ago we learned from Mr. Geo. W Chandler, Esq. that they were pushing their mill at Blue Lake to a rapid completion and with good luck would have it running in six weeks. This will call for an extension of the railroad up Mad river....

WTT (3 Feb. 1883) From present appearance it would seem that the lumber business on Mad river is to be opened up on a large scale with the coming spring. Within the past week, parties from San Francisco, some of whom own large bodies of timber on the North Fork, have made leases of large lots of redwood on that stream and will proceed to erect a mill or mills on the ground and commence the manufacture of lumber on a grand scale. Up the North Fork on either side for a number of miles and from its mouth to Angel Ranch, there is a forest of redwood that stands unparalleled in excellence and abundance. With the mill at Blue Lake and others at the

North Fork, a season of prosperity will be inaugurated in the upper and lower Mad river settlement heretofore unknown and scarcely dreamed of....

Demo Standard (17 Feb. 1883) Letter from Arcata--....We hear a good deal of talk of railroad and some redwood talk and do not think there is any doubt but that the Arcata and Mad River Railroad will be extended up to Skedaddle at an early day, and up to Chandler's mill at Blue Lake some time the coming summer.

WTT (31 March 1883) Mad River Budget—In the matter of business, Mad River is going to take the lead in Humboldt. We have three sawmills already and are to have one, perhaps two, more in the near future....The Blue Lake mill will be finished in three or four weeks. It is already sawing lumber for its own purposes. They have a splendid mill.

Demo Stan (31 March 1883) The Arcata and Mad River Railroad changes hands on Monday and the new firm Korbel Bros. & Co. taking charge. Hope is that railroad will cross river and run up north side of Mad River.

DTT (4 April 1883) The Korbel Bros. went to the North Fork of Mad river yesterday to select a site and locate a mill at that point, which they will proceed at once to build.

DTT (6 April 1883) Korbel Bros, owners of the Arcata and Mad River Railroad, have made arrangements for right of way with property owners on north side of Mad river, will bridge river at Skedaddle.

WTT (5 May 1883) Chandler's sawmill is fast approaching completion. It will be ready for sawing in or about the 1st of May....

Demo Standard (26 May 1883) Letter from Arcata--....The Arcata and Mad River Railroad Co. are pushing their road to North Fork. Between 75 and 100 men are on the road grading, pile-driving and building trestle work.

WTT (7 July 1883) Mad River Notes—In a business point of view this seems to be the banner portion of the county, notwithstanding the several railroad booms to the south of us. We have two full-fledged railroads or nearly so. The Korbel Brothers & Co.'s road is being pushed to completion as fast as possible. They have it completed and trains running as far up the river as Skedaddle....They are building two piers for the bridge in the river bed now....Korbel and Co.'s new mill at North Fork is in course of erection. It will be a large two-story mill and about the same size and cutting capacity as Carson and Dolbeer's mill of Eureka. Mr. Bronson, who rebuilt the Occidental Mill in your city, is superintending the structure.

DTT (18 Aug. 1883) Korbel Bros. have finished the trestle work across Hall's creek and that by one week from next Monday, they will be ready to deliver lumber on the wharf from the Blue Lake mill.

Demo Standard (1 Sept. 1883) Letter from Arcata....Yesterday, Aug. 29th, 1883, will be a day, long remembered. The new locomotive, North Fork, of the Arcata and Mad River railroad steamed into Chandler's lumber yard at Blue Lake....

Daily Times Telephone (28 Sept. 1883) The North Fork Mill—On a recent visit to the north fork of Mad river, we were not a little surprised to find so imposing a mill structure as that which the railroad company is now hurrying to completion with all possible energy. On approaching it, one is reminded of the new Bay mill in this city, although as a result of location, it shows to much better advantage. The main building is 50x181 feet, two stories high and crowned with a ventilator roof. The entire covering will be of iron—a timely protection against fire communicating from the tall smoke stack or from the adjacent timber. The location, for the purpose intended, could not be more favorable, and affords lumber-storing conveniences not often enjoyed. The pond from which logs will be moved to the mill is at the north end of the structure, and the lumber, after leaving the saws, will pass directly to the yard or cars. The boilers, three in number, are placed outside the mill building proper, and the engine and ponderous driving machinery occupy positions about the center of the mill building proper. All the cutting machinery, which is of the most approved patterns will be on the second floor of the structure. An endless variety of labor-saving machines are stored in and about the building, including a Dolbeer logging apparatus.

To Mr. Bronson, the superintending machinist of the North Fork mill, we are under obligations for courtesies extended and information furnished in a most courteous manner. The gentleman superintended the construction of the Occidental mill in this city and ranks high as an artisan. He expects to have the machinery in position within three weeks, which will be as soon as the railroad can be completed to the mill. The company has not yet decided whether a supply of water for the mill be furnished by an artesian well, or by a flume from the north fork. In point of location, climate and facilities for obtaining timber, the north fork mill has advantages which are not enjoyed by other mills in the county, if we except those located on or near Mad river.

Demo Standard (3 Nov. 1883) The new mill of Korbel Bros. on the North Fork of Mad River is cutting lumber in earnest.

HS (17 Jan. 1884) Arcata and Mad River Railroad [editor took a ride to North Fork on train] Blue Lake....Just beyond the store is the Lumber Yard and Mill of Chandler, Henderson & Co. There is not less than 1,000,000 feet of lumber on the ground ready for transportation. This company completed their mill and commenced sawing in June last. For the seven months ending Dec. 31, 1883, they shipped, as we are informed by Mr. Henderson, 4,500,000 feet of lumber. These shipments were to both domestic and foreign ports. The lumber is all transported over the A.&M.R.RR to tide water [lots of stats] Mr. Henderson, one of the firm, is superintendent of the mill; Frank Graham, another partner, has charge of the logging; G.W. Chandler, the remaining partner, resides at Arcata and attends to all outside business....

Three miles beyond Blue Lake is the large mill of the Humboldt Lumber and Mill Company. This is an incorporation: President Frank Korbel; Secretary Ed Cutten; Treasurer A. Korbel; superintendent Carl Sohms. The mill of the company has a capacity of 50,000 feet per day. The machinery was purchased of Tatum & Bowen. The main building is 200x40 with a shed on either side 25x60, covered with a corrugated iron roof. The shed on the right will contain the shingle mill, picket machinery and filing room, upstairs; under one portion, a blacksmith shop.

The shed on the left is for storage of lumber. The machinery is driven by a 20x30, 300 horse power engine. Automatic Yankee feeders carry the sawdust into the furnaces for fuel and a short elevator takes off the waste lumber to the fire dump. Logs are supplied from a large pond, with a holding capacity of 3,000,000 feet. Three tracks lead out into the yard, from the trucks of which lumber is loaded on, the lumber cars of the railroad. Two logging engines and three teams—a fine yoke of cattle to each team—are used in logging. This company have 30 houses built and furnished for lodging, board and lodging being included in addition to wages—four men to each house, two rooms. The company are also having put up twelve houses of four rooms each to be rented to married men, at a nominal figure, they being anxious to secure men with families as employees. A large boarding house is also on the ground, the upper story being utilized for furnished rooms. A company store building is soon to be built. It will be 40x100; two-story. Upper floor will be used for furnished rooms. This company employs 120 men. Average wages paid \$50 per month, with board and lodging. Mr. V. Bauer, who has been with Korbel Bros. for more than ten years, has charge of the logging. We learned from Mr. A. Korbel, the Treasurer, that this company has invested not less than \$80,000 in machinery and buildings and \$100,000 in real estate. They own 3,000 acres of magnificent timber land. The railroad takes away from this mill an average of 15 carloads of lumber a day. Each car carries 2250 feet of lumber. Everything about the establishment is characteristic of Korbel Bros thorough in detail, sound in judgment and cannot but have successful issue. A few words about the Arcata and Mad River Railroad and we will close. Length of road from North Fork to end of wharf, not quite 12 miles. It transports all the lumber from the following mills: Falk, Hawley & Co.; Minor, Kirk & Co.; Chandler, Henderson & Co.; and the Humboldt Lumber & Mill Co.... an average capacity of 35,000 feet per day; in 1883, it carried 11,750,000 feet lumber; 8,018,000 shingles and 175,000 shakes.

DTT (18 Jan. 1884) The mill of the Humboldt Lumber Co. on the North Fork of Mad River, while not complete, is turning out lumber very rapidly under the superintendence of A. Korbel. The daily product is now 40,000 feet which will be increased to 60,000 feet when all is in readiness.

WTT (16 May 1885) The number of men at present employed in milling and logging operations on Mad River is estimated as follows: North Fork mill, 125; Blue Lake mill, 75; Vance's mill, 100; Minor, Kirk & Co., 100; total 400.

DHS (27 Feb. 1886) Letter from Arcata....We were informed that the mill at North Fork would commence operation next Monday for the season. The company has built a new railroad along the east side of the pond and running up North Fork into heavy timber. [more]

DHS (27 Feb. 1886) Letter from Arcata....We also paid a visit to the new mill of George W. Chandler at the mouth of the North Fork. No prettier place could be found for a mill site. They have the first story up of heavy and substantial timbers. The frame work for the dam is rapidly approaching completion....They expect to be able to saw about the 1st of May next.

The A.&M.R.RR Co. have built a substantial branch road leaving the main road just below the picnic ground and a heavy substantial bridge across the North Fork, which will connect the present railroad with Chandlers new mill and will transport all the lumber and shipping from the mill to the wharf.

DHS (3 May 1886) Letter from Arcata...Chandler's new mill on North Fork will be in full operation in a few days. The logging crew of Frank Graham are in full operation.

AU (7 Aug. 1886) Trip up Mad River—From Minor's [at Hall Creek], we went to the Riverside Mill. This mill was built to fit the machinery of the Blue Lake mill with the addition of one boiler and engine, which give it plenty of power. It is located near the mouth of North Fork and has a branch railroad connection with the Arcata & Mad River railroad. We found young Harry Jackson in charge of the mill and George Yocom in charge of the yard....

AU (13 Nov. 1886) Burning of the North Fork Mill—The most disastrous fire that ever occurred in Humboldt County took place last Sunday night resulting in the total destruction of the North Fork mill...The mill cost about \$80,000 and was partially insured....The Korbels, owners of the Arcata and Mad River Railroad, were the principal owners of the mill....

AU (19 March 1887) The North Fork Mill is fully completed and turning out lumber rapidly.

AU (11 May, Sat. 1889) The following from the Humboldt Times of Thursday will show the plan adopted by the Riverside Mill Co. to dissolve the partnership.

An agreement was filed at the Recorder's Office yesterday which will dissolve the partnership now existing between G.W. Chandler and H.W. Jackson and others. The agreement provides that the money on hand shall be used to pay claims against the firm and if at the end of thirty days, there is any money remaining on hand, it is to be divided between the partners in proportion to their respective interests. For the next thirty days, G.W. Chandler and H.W. Jackson are to use every exertion to collect in or secure all outstanding indebtedness due them, and use the money to pay claims against the firm. AT the end of the thirty days, the mill, plant, machinery, lands, lumber, logs, tools, and in fact, everything belonging to the firm of Chandler, Jackson & Co. is to be put up at auction and sold to the highest bidder in the following manner. An undivided one-eighth is to be put up and bid for by G.W. Chandler, upon one side, and by H.W. Jackson, et al. on the other and whichever party secures the bid is to have the privilege of buying the other seven-eighths at the same price. If Mr. Chandler secures the bid, he is to buy the five-eighths belonging to the other partners. At the same rate and if Mr. Jackson secures the bid, he is to buy Mr. Chandler's three-eighths at the same figure. One thousand dollars is to be paid down on each eight purchased, and the balance one half in 60 days and one half at the expiration of one year.

AU (15 June 1889) According to an agreement entered into between the owners of the Riverside Mill Co. by which the partnership was to be decided by putting up one-eighth to be bid upon among themselves, G.W. Chandler, who owned three-eighths of the property, let go of his interest, the owners of the other five-eighths being the purchasers.

The owners of the mill then proceeded to incorporate, taking in two new partners, as will be observed from the following from the Humboldt Times of Thursday.

Articles of incorporation of the Riverside Lumber Co. were filed at the Clerk's office yesterday. The principal place of business of the corporation is at Riverside in this county, and the object of the incorporation is to follow a general lumber manufacturing and logging business. The directors for the first year are: H.W. Jackson, Frank Graham, A. Kendall, James Kirk, and G.A. Tilley. The capital stock is \$80,000 divided into 800 shares of the par value of \$100 each,

of which, H.W. Jackson and Frank Graham have subscribed 240 shares each, A. Kendall, 120 shares; and James Kirk and G.W. Tilley, 100 shares each.

AU (9 Nov. 1889) The establishment of a lumber yard in Arcata by the Riverside Mill Co. is an enterprise that the people of this town have felt the want of for many years. [new advertisement]

BLA (22 April 1893) The Humboldt Lumber Mill Co. of Korbels has perhaps a hundred men in its employ in the mill and camps. The Riverside Co. has 50 or 60 men in the woods.

AU (24 Aug. 1901) Supt. Frank Graham of the Riverside Lumber Co. is at present getting out about 150,000 feet of timber daily at the Canyon Creek possessions of the company.

BLA (5 April 1902) The Mills and Logging Camps—The lumbering outlook in this part of Humboldt for the present year is very bright.

Operations at the Riverside Lumber Company's mill were resumed April 1st and the first load of logs for the season were dumped into the pond last Monday. In the woods at Canyon Creek, the company has about 80 men at work, under the superintendence of Frank Graham one of Humboldt's expert loggers. Two logging, one blocking and one bull donkey are now running there, and logs are being dispatched from the side hills to the landings in fine order. [much more about the men in charge]

The Korbels mill also started in full blast Thursday and will continue to run steadily, there being plenty of logs on hand and more hauled from the woods every day. This institution, like the Riverside mill, has been thoroughly overhauled and new pieces of machinery added, putting it in full-class running order. The Humboldt Lumber Mill Co. has plenty of orders ahead to assure a big summer's work.

In the company's woods at Sullivan gulch, Superintendent J.A. Montgomery has about 60 men at work. Five donkeys are in operation as follows: two logging donkeys with Harry Bracken and George Lee, engineers, a blocking donkey run by George Haskell, and two bull donkeys—the lower one in charge of Jack Dundas with Ed Atwell, fireman; the upper one run by William Lane with Bert Melvin, fireman. Water slingers Harry Anderson and assistant on the lower stretch and James Baker with assistant Ben Scott on the upper stretch, keep down friction as much as possible. The head chain tenders, Ed Smith, John Russ and Wm. Underwood with Peter Larsen, Delbert Reckert and Will Pitzer tending second, all in charge of the rigging and head swamper Dan Baldwin and crew make the roads. All these men understand their work thoroughly. The woods cook house is supervised by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rankin, assisted by Miss Lewis and Mrs. Shivers. The logging train, E. Knutz, engineer, A. Anderson, fireman, hauls about 100 logs per day to the pond.

In about a month and a half, the choppers and peelers will be set to work at Canyon Creek and commence work on a new camp there to be established when logging operations at Sullivan gulch are ended.

BLA (19 April 1902) Korbels Happenings—The Humboldt Lumber Mill Company's orchard is at present a beautiful sight to behold with its hundreds of trees in full blossom.

BLA (17 May 1902) Korbels—Capt. Chas. Nelson and wife were the guests of Supt. Zaruba on Monday. The Captain was taken to Canyon Creek to inspect the country.

BLA (2 July 1902) Lumbering Notes—One of the busiest lumber mills in the county at present is the Riverside Lumber Mill Company's mill, two miles north of Blue Lake. This plant is now running night and day, in fact, it is the only mill in the county now running on a double schedule. [more]

BLA (9 Aug. 1902) Korbels—Mr. A. Korbels and son, Leo, accompanied by Mr. Zak of San Francisco, returned home after spending several days on business in Korbels. It is rumored that extensive improvements are to be made in the mill next spring, which will greatly enlarge the capacity of the plant. The idle side of the mill which has not been used for years, will be put in proper shape and started up next year. Several new boilers and an engine are to be added also.

BLA (23 Aug. 1902) Korbels—Mr. Francis Korbels, president of the Humboldt Lumber Mill Co., is at present in Korbels attending to business.

BLA (11 Oct. 1902) Supt. V. Zaruba of the Korbels Mill and H.W. Jackson of the Riverside Mill went to Eureka to attend the regular monthly meeting of the Humboldt Lumber Manufacturer's Association.

BLA (13 Dec. 1902) Korbels—Logging operations are still being carried on in an endeavor to complete operations in Sullivan Gulch....The choppers camps of the Humboldt Lumber Mill Co. near Canyon Creek was closed down for the winter today. Logging operations will be carried on from the camp next year. Mr. Anton Korbels returned to San Francisco after completing arrangements for various improvements to be made this winter.

BLA (24 Jan. 1903) Storms [Korbels mill shut down; water running underneath the mill and interfering with machinery]

BLA (7 Feb. 1903) [Big Headline] Korbels Bros Sell Out to Riverside Co.; All their interests in Humboldt sold for \$1,000,000; It Includes mills, timber lands and A.&M.R.R.R.; New company known as Northern Redwood Lumber Co.; Names of the incorporators—One of the greatest and most important changes in the lumbering and railroading business was positively made known this week when articles of incorporation of the Northern Redwood Lumber Company were filed for record last Monday. The new company is simply the consolidation of the Humboldt Lumber Mill Co.'s plant at Korbels and the Riverside Lumber Company of Riverside, situated only two miles from Blue Lake. This change means that the Korbels Bros. have gone out of business in this county, for together with the mill and timber lands belonging thereto, the Arcata & Mad River Railroad and their interests in the steamer North Fork are included in the transaction.

The incorporators are H.W. Jackson and Frank Graham of Arcata, A. Kendall, Charles Nelson and James Tyson of San Francisco. Messrs. Jackson, Graham and Kendall, together with Lewis Everding, are members of the Riverside Lumber Co., and Capt. Charles Nelson and nephew, James Tyson, of the Charles Nelson Company of San Francisco, the large shipping and lumber firm of the coast metropolis, who are the agents for the Riverside and other mill companies of this county. The new company is incorporated for a term of 50 years with a capital stock of \$2,000,000 divided into 20,000 shares of \$100 per share, of which each of the

incorporators mentioned have subscribed five shares. Those stockholders are also the directors for the first year.

The principal place of business for the new company is to be Korbels, and the purposes as set forth in the articles are to engage in a general lumbering, shipping, and milling business and also to own, operate and control electric plants for supplying power and light.

Mr. H.W. Jackson, president of the Riverside Lumber Company, who with Mr. Frank Graham, returned from San Francisco, tells the Advocate that the new company, as stated above, has acquired not only the mills but the timber holdings of both companies, aggregating about 12,000 acres of redwood land, and about 5,000 acres of stump land, and also the Arcata & Mad River railroad of the Korbels. While nothing is known as to the exact sum paid for this large deal, it is generally conceded by some who know that the round sum of \$1,000,000 covers the purchase price.

As for the electric power plant feature of the incorporation, Mr. Jackson tells us that is something for the future to develop. The time will come, he says, when electricity will displace steam as a motive power both in the mills and woods, as there is an abundance of water power on the North Fork for the generation of electricity his company wishes to be prepared to take advantage of it. It may never come as far as he knows.

The Korbels and Riverside mills are both band saw mills of about 50,000 feet capacity in 10 hours' work, and are equipped with the latest improved machinery. It was in 1882, when the Korbels extended the Arcata & Mad River railroad to the North Fork of Mad river and built their mill. It was about the same time when some of the present members of the Riverside Lumber Company, together with Mr. Chandler, commenced the erection of their mill in Blue Lake where the present shingle mill and electric light plant is now stands. The mill was afterwards moved to the present location at Riverside. The Arcata & Mad River railroad is one of the best assets of the new company. In former years all the mills in this vicinity and above Arcata were tributaries to the road which extends 18 or 20 miles north of Arcata into the Company's timber up Mad river and along the North Fork, its bay terminus being over three miles of trestle which ends in a large wharf where vessels of ordinary draft may be taken to load. For years it was considered one of the best paying pieces of property in the state. At present the road is the natural extension of the California & Northern Railway from Eureka, and connects with this latter road in Arcata.

The papers of incorporation have been sent to the Secretary of State at Sacramento and as soon as the charter for the new corporation is issued and received, the directors will meet and make changes as they see fit in regard to the management of their various departments. No change will take place yet for some little time to come, although a number of guesses are being made very day by some of their employees, regarding some prospective move.

The Korbels together with their able superintendent and assistants have conducted a nice and profitable business here for over 20 years, and their presence from our midst will be greatly missed by nearly all those who have come in contact with them either in a business or a social manner.

Messrs. Jackson, Graham, Everding and Kendall of the Riverside Co., together with Capt. Nielson and James Tyson, are all popular and efficient business men, whose energy, shrewdness and honesty have long been well established, and to say that under their able management the affairs of the new corporation will flourish can hardly express it. They understand every phase of the lumber business in perfection and know how to please their many customers and friends. The

Advocate in company with their many other friends wish the new company unbounded success in the management of their large new enterprise.

AU (7 Feb. 1903) Is Important to Northern Humboldt; The Korbels Sell Their Mill and Railroad to the Riverside Lumber Company and Others—For more than year past there have been rumors of the Korbels selling their immense buildings in this end of the county, and for some time past negotiations have been going on between the Riverside Lumber Co. and the Korbels for the sale of the mill and railroad. Some days ago, H.W. Jackson and Frank Graham of the company went below, where they were joined by A. Kendall, another members of the firm, and meeting the representatives of the other company the sale was completed. On Monday morning of this week, Articles of Incorporation of the Northern Redwood Lumber Company; which will be the name of the new concern were filed at the court house.

By the articles of incorporation, it appears that the Northern Redwood Co. is a consolidation of the Humboldt Lumber Company's mill at Korbel, the Riverside Lumber Co.'s mill at Riverside, and the A.&.M.R. railroad, together with the trestle and Arcata Wharf. It also includes all the timber land lying in the vicinity of Canyon Creek, and the stump land which the Korbels have logged over in years gone by.

The incorporators are all well known to people of this section and are as follows: H.W. Jackson and Frank Graham of Arcata; Capt. Chas. Nelson, Jas. Tyson and A. Kendal of San Francisco. Louis Everding of the Riverside Company is also a member of the firm but as he was not present when the papers were signed, his name does not appear. In plain words, the Riverside Lumber Company, and the Charles Nelson Company have bought all the Korbel holdings and formed a new company under the name mentioned. The principal place of business is given as Korbel and as this is the end of the road, it will be the handiest place to conduct the business. The company is incorporated for a term of fifty years with a capital stock of \$2,000,000 and the five incorporators mentioned are the directors for the first year.

In an interview with Pres. Jackson of the Riverside Co., the gentleman stated that the transfer of the property had been made but nothing in regard to the future plans could be given out until the members of the new firm hold a meeting. The officials at the depot in Arcata have received no notice of any changes and things will run along as they are at present until after the meeting is held.

The most valuable piece of property in the combination is the A. & M.R. railroad. This road has paid very large dividends in the past and as the Riverside Lumber Company has been paying large sums of money yearly for the hauling of both logs and sawed lumber, it is a good business proposition for them to control the road between their mill and tide water.

The assessed value of the property which changed hands amounts to more than \$300,000 and it is generally understood that the sum involved in the transfer is something over a million dollars, of which at least half is believed to have been paid in cash.

While the Union is sorry to see the Messrs. Korbel dispose of their interests in Humboldt, we are glad to see the property pass into the hands of men who are residents here and who are well known, hard headed business men.

The San Francisco members of the new firm will handle the output of both mills and the Chas. Nelson Company has been handling the Riverside output for a long time past.

BLA (21 March 1903) To Make Final Arrangements—Mr. James Tyson of the Charles Nelson Co. of San Francisco and also of the new local corporation, known as the Redwood Lumber Co.,

was in this section this week on business connected with the transfer of the holdings of the new company. He returned home on Tuesday's steamer, accompanied by Mr. Louis Everding, the secretary of the company. It is rumored that on the next steamer, Captain Nelson and Mr. Everding will arrive here and that the final arrangements and transfer of the Korbel Bros.' holdings to the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. will be made.

BLA (28 March 1903) A New Change of Management; the big mills at Korbel and Riverside consolidated into one; President H.W. Jackson, new Supt. of both lumber mills and the A.&M.R.R.R.—Messrs. Capt. Charles Nelson, James Tyson and Anton Korbel of San Francisco transacted business at Korbel this week, and among other things the important transfer of management in the Humboldt Lumber Mill Co. and the Arcata & Mad River Railroad Co. took place. As it is, H.W. Jackson, the President of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co., has the general superintendence of the Humboldt Lumber Mill Company's plant at Korbel and of the Riverside mill, while Capt. Nelson is acting as President of the A.&M.R.R.R. with James Tyson as Vice-President and Treasurer, and Peter Thompson as Secretary. Mr. Jackson will act as Superintendent of the road and Mr. V. Zaruba will be Assistant Superintendent. Messrs. Francis and Anton Korbel will still remain as directors of both companies, the Humboldt Lumber Mill Co. and the A.&M.R.R.R. Co.

The main office of the consolidated companies will be at Korbel, and as soon as convenient President Jackson and Secretary Everding will move their office furniture and other paraphernalia from Riverside to their new quarters.

In two or three weeks, President Jackson tells us that the mill at Korbel will shut down for annual repairs, the supply of logs in the pond being about exhausted. Among the necessary repairs to be made there will be the construction of another band mill, making a double band mill of the plant. The company will then operate both sides as soon as the work is completed. It is understood that Mr. Henry Moore, the only standby at the Riverside mill, will act as foreman of the Korbel mill, while his place of foreman at the Riverside mill will be filled by Mr. R.E. Byard, another efficient millman, and everything about both plants is expected to run as smoothly as ever.

Last Tuesday morning, operations at the Riverside mill were resumed after a few week's suspense on account of necessary repairs. The report that as soon as the Korbel mill shut down for repairs, the Riverside mill will be operated night and day, President Jackson informs us that the same is without foundation. The Riverside mill will be operated only in day time as it is at present.

Mr. Anton Korbel returned to his home in San Francisco on Thursday's steamer, while Capt. Nelson and nephew, James Tyson, will depart on tomorrow's steamer.

BLA (25 April 1903) Korbel—The Northern Redwood Lumber Company's camps No. 4 and 5, Canyon Creek, have resumed logging operations in earnest....The Korbel mill shut down last Saturday for repairs and a general overhauling in and about the mill....

Mr. V. Zaruba, who for a number of years has been acting as general superintendent of the Humboldt Lumber Mill Co. and of the Arcata and Mad River Railroad Co. has resigned his position, and next Saturday, April 25, he expects to depart to San Francisco, where he will enjoy a much needed rest....

President Jackson contemplates building a nice new office at Korbel soon. It will be located this side of the cook house near the railroad track.

BLA (2 May 1903) Korbels—There are a good deal of repairs and improvement work now going on at the Korbels mill. Joe Tabor, the head millwright with a crew of about 20 men, is kept busy tearing out the rotten foundation timbers and replacing new ones instead. The band saw has also been taken apart and moved. Cement piers sank to a depth of from two to three feet and upon which the foundation timbers will rest, are now built and when the band mill is again re-set, it will rest upon a solid structure. The two new boilers which are now resting upon a temporary support will soon be installed....

BLA (8 Aug. 1903) A decree of distribution was recorded Monday in the estate of Joseph Korbels, deceased, distributing to Anton Korbels and Caroline Korbels, one-half; and to Eleanora, Helena K, Caroline and Lucia Korbels, one-half interest in estate.

BLA (15 Aug. 1903) Lots of Lumber on the Move—Considerable lumber is now being shipped over the Arcata and Mad River Railroad to the Arcata wharf. A special train leaves Korbels every day about 11 o'clock taking nothing but lumber. Monday last this train, pulled by No. 4 with George Teal at the throttle, consisted of 50 cars of lumber, 30 from Korbels and Riverside, 20 more from Glendale. This is the largest train ever taken entire to Arcata....Each car averages 3000 feet, consequently this trainload represented 150,000 feet.

BLA (28 Nov. 1903) Korbels—Work on the store is progressing rapidly. Anderson Bros. and three other carpenters are busy [enlarging store]. New floor added....Among the prospective improvements to be made at this place early next year will be a new hotel, a new saloon, a new livery stable and a new blacksmith and machine shop.

BLA (28 Dec. 1912) The New Korbels of Today; Hundreds of Men are Employed There; Mills, Logging Camps and Ranches; A Vast Number of Improvements Made During the Last Year, Korbels—The Northern Redwood Lumber Company is a lumbering company which employs several hundred men together in its two mills and several logging camps. Korbels is the home of this plant while the main office is situated in San Francisco at the Charles Nelson Company's office.

Korbels is twenty-two miles northeast of Eureka and is the northern terminus of the Arcata & Mad River Railroad, which runs between Arcata, Blue Lake and Korbels. This place is also reached by a wagon road, which has a very good gravel bed, and in the spring and summer many autos make this run from all over the county to spend the day at Camp Bauer, which is one of the most beautiful picnic grounds in the state. At Camp Bauer you will find a fine dance platform shaded by the pretty maple and pepperwood trees, tables for picnickers who bring their lunches and plan on a day beneath the maples, swings for children and a swimming pool with plenty of water in the summer time which makes swimming an ideal pleasure.

Through the summer, many parties spend their vacations here at these pretty grounds. There is also good fishing in the North Fork of Mad River at Camp Bauer.

Korbels has the distinction of having one of the best hotels in the state. The hotel is a very neat structure, having 40 rooms altogether, besides having two large dining rooms and a spacious lobby. The latter is finished with curly redwood, which with proper "dressing" will take a very fine polish. Off of the lobby on one side are the two dining rooms, and on the other side, the card and billiard room. Upstairs is the ladies' parlor, which with its wicker chairs, Mission tables and

the piano go to make the appearance very homelike. On two sides of the building, there is a veranda from which guests have a very pretty view of the river and the hills with their green foliage. For the convenience of tourists, the hotel has a garage which will accommodate a good many autos at the same time. There is also a tennis court, which is kept "warm" by "fans and fannies" each summer and fall. The hotel is managed by D.W. Davis, who is very accommodating to everybody.

The chicken ranch is very interesting. Here at this place will be found over 1000 white leghorn chickens which amply supply the egg demand of the hotel. The ranch also supplies the hotel with turkeys and chicken for Sunday and holiday lunches. The chicken ranch is under the capable management of G.W. Smith.

The store, under the management of James Bishop does a thriving business. It is well taken care of by Mr. Bishop and his eight clerks. The store was remodeled by master mechanic Joe Tabor. Downstairs on one side of this great department store will be found candies, groceries and cartridge, also the Manager's office, the other side is devoted to shoes and dry goods and upstairs is the reserve stock and a large sample room. A harness shop is in connection with the store. Chas. Lawson is the harness maker.

The warehouse and shipping room is a very busy place. Ed Parks, late of Wells, Fargo Express Co., is in charge of the former, while A. Lyle Smith of Arcata is in charge of the shipping room.

The office, across the street from the store, is a place of business. Herbert A. Baldwin is head cashier and he and his able assistant, H.H. Monahan are kept very busy, beside G.W. Chaffey, the store bookkeeper and J.C. Cummins, who has charge of the pay roll accounts. Besides these gentlemen in the front office, there are Geo. C. Dolf, the stenographer, and Frank Emmenegger, the billing clerk. In the shipping office or the "back office," as it is better known here, you will find Fred J. Moore and his assistant, Fred Ayer. These two young men handle the lumber orders and see to the shipping. V.E. Moore, late of Brizard's store, is also employed in this office. W.J. Kern does the train dispatching for this same back office. To the writer, it seems as if the learn-to-do method is carried on by this company, for with the exception of one or two, the whole office force are graduates of the Eureka Business College, comprising the timekeepers of the woods, camps, the chief postal clerk and the freight clerk, besides other graduates who are employed in various positions.

The post office is in the cook house building and is in charge of Fred H. Anderson and his brother, Wesley. These two young men are kept very busy for besides the regular mail, they also have the telephone exchange and the Wells, Fargo Agency to attend to.

Korbel is the northern terminus of the Arcata & Mad River Railroad which is owned by the Charles Nelson Co. of San Francisco. The railroad has considerable rolling stock, passenger coaches, box cars, lumber cars, and logging cars, besides nine engines, one gypsy locomotive, two powerful Heislors and six locomotives. The engines are housed in a galvanized tin roundhouse, which has a cement floor. Four of the locomotives are oil burners, while the other burn wood.

The main feature of the little city is the sawmill. This mill will cut on an average over 100,000 feet of lumber daily. There are two sides cutting on an average of 55,000 and 45,000 daily. Besides the sawmill there are a shingle and shake mill, a planing room and tank room. The mill is in charge of Ed Byard and the planning and tank room in charge of George Falor. The mill employs almost 150 men.

This place has its own lighting plant behind the mill. Thos. Fox is chief electrician, while Milo Falor is the assistant

The lumber yard is in charge of Andrew Skero, and is a very busy place as nearly all of the lumber is shipped from Korbel. The yard employs about 75 men.

It is a great object for one to visit and enjoy the sights of this little city and to be shown through the mill and have every little detail explained by one who is accustomed to every working saw and left.

Riverside. Riverside, the next point of interest, is also situated on the North Fork of Mad river, about a quarter of a mile from Korbel and like its sister town is a very lively burg on account of the sawmill. Riverside employs about 100 men and under the foremanship of H.C. Scholl, its daily output is about 60,000 feet. The store is in charge of W Leary, while the yard is under the charge of Sam Patenaude and his assistant Mr. Hollings. The yard force consists of about 50 men.

There are some very pretty walks about Riverside. It is here that H.W. Jackson, president of the company, and L.C. Everding, secretary, have their summer homes.

Camp No. 3. Camp 3 is three miles from Korbel and is on the banks of Mad River. It is here that the trains have to stop to port and register the direction they are bound. Camp 3, or Camp 3 Junction, as it is called, is an old logging camp and was one Allard's bolt camp. There the railroad bridge crosses Mad River, running to Camp 12, 10 and 9. Camp 3 bridge has been taken out twice this winter by the high water. On up the railroad line, we find

Camp 12. This camp is off from the main road a short distance and a very heavy and dangerous grade leads out of the camp to the main line. A man is on duty at this switch all the time and is known as "the switchman." At Camp 12, there is about 70 men employed under Foreman Martin Gross. Martin, who is a very jolly, accommodating man, is well liked by his men. As timekeeper and manager of the store is one of the Eureka Business College old students, W.F. Leavy.

Camp 10. Camp 10, like its sister camp is a logging camp and with William Henry as foreman with a crew of 100 men under him, the reader can imagine how the trees are felled, peeled and loaded for this is a fast crew of men. Both fir and redwood are found in this camp. Again, the Eureka Business College is represented here, Joe Leavy being timekeeper and manager of the store.

Between Camps 12 and 10, a sightseer will enjoy passing over some very high trestles. From one of them you can see Blue Lake in the distance. There are many other pretty and interesting scenes to be witnessed at those two camps.

There are two other camps, and up Mad river, Camp 7, and the other up Canyon creek, Camp 13.

Camp 7. Camp 7 is six miles from Korbel and is on Mad river. This is a very small camp, employing about 20 men under Foreman Burns. At Camp 7 there is a tunnel over 800 feet long driven through the mountain to tap a great body of timber which lies on the other side of the mountain. Trains have been able to pass through this tunnel for some time, but owing to other difficulties, logging will not be done there for some time to come.

Camp 13. Camp 13 is eight miles from Korb on Canyon creek and is the banner camp of all. It has the largest logging crew and William Graham is acting as foreman, while Justin S. Solomon is the timekeeper. Camp 13 is located in the heart of the Brizard timber, which is a very pretty belt of redwood. On a night when it is cold and a person feels like “hugging the stove,” you will generally see at “Mose” Solomon’s cabin such men as Duncan Campbell, foreman of the choppers, Harvey Monahan, foreman of the sawyers, F.E. Miller, C.H. Reaves and others, who usually go to make a good jovial “bunch.” The report is that “Mose” is a royal entertainer and host.

Ranches. The company owns several ranches. Those ranches, three in number, are the Porter ranch at Iaqua, the Ira Russ Ranch up Mad river, and the Norton ranch below Blue Lake.

The Porter ranch was purchased about the 1st of November and is a splendid place for grazing, while the Ira Russ place, which was also bought in November, is likewise used for grazing and the running of stock.

The Norton ranch, which nearly everyone has seen or heard of, is one of the prettiest ranches in the county, and will compare favorably with any in the whole state. Besides the main barn, which is an immense structure used for a cow and hay barn, there is a calf barn. This barn is a modern, up-to-date building, whitewashed throughout. There is also a sanitary creamery and cream can rack. This rack is built so that these cans are aired thoroughly. The land is of the very best of soil, enabling a person to raise all kinds of hay and other grains. The kitchen is in charge of Mrs. J.H. Tamboury, with the assistance of Mrs. C.A. Moore. Mr. J.B. Tamboury is the ranch foreman and is a very busy man. He makes his home at the Norton ranch with his family and is on the go from morning till night. Besides attending to the Norton ranch and the Porter and Russ places, he has the Korb end to look after, and altogether his position is a very busy one. But Jack is the man to cover the ground.

Improvements. Besides rebuilding all of the Norton ranch buildings, Master Mechanic Joe Tabor had built several new houses both in Korb and Riverside, the remodeling of the store and numerous other buildings. The last improvement is the new addition to the office. This is a 28-foot addition and it is very neat in appearance, being just the same kind of a building as the old office. There will be four new offices, the shipping clerk, train dispatcher, tallyman and stenographer, which will make it quite roomy for all concerned.

AU (9 Jan. 1919) Louis Everding, Secretary and Assistant Manager of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co., has sold his interests in the company to his associates and has retired....followed lumber game for 32 years....H.A. Baldwin, Cashier, was selected to fill the position of Secretary of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co.

BLA (8 Jan. 1927) Dr. Fred Harrison, M.D., arrived in Korb on January 1st where he has established his residence and office, acting assistant to Dr. O.R. Myers of Eureka, the regular physician and surgeon for the Northern Redwood Lumber co....His office is located in the emergency hospital building at Korb.

BLA (5 March 1927) Giant Lumber Merger Formed on this Coast—[Charles Nelson Co., one of firms, it controls our local mills at Korb and Riverside]

BLA (24 Dec. 1927) The Northern Redwood Lumber Company's logging woods on the North Fork closed down Thursday until Wednesday on account of Christmas. The Korbelt mill will shut-down today for three weeks during which time considerable repairs will be made to the big plant [including cleaning out the pond]

The Riverside mill will also shut down today until next Tuesday, when it will resume operations on a day and night shift.

AU (16 July 1931) Korbelt Mill Will Close Soon—Slack conditions and the tax situation were given as reasons recently by officials of the Northern Redwood Co. for closing down their Korbelt plant, which will be done soon. It was explained, however, that the shutdown will affect only about 60 men, and that the planning mill, yard and power plant crews will continue as before. There is a possibility that the mill will be reopened during the fall, it was stated.

BLA (8 July 1933) Korbelt Mill May Reopen in a Short Time—A number of men have been called to work by the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. at Korbelt recently, according to many officials who state that the move is for the purpose of repairing and reconditioning in making ready for the opening of logging and lumber manufacturing operations.

The company is awaiting developments from the conference called at Chicago to institute a code for the operation of the lumber industry and it is indicated that the plant will be put into condition for operation as soon as production and marketing allotments are made for the redwood field by the emergency national committee....

In normal times, the company employed around 700 men in their entire operations.

BLA (9 Sept. 1933) Depression on the run in this locality; Opening of Korbelt on 18th brightens the outlook—The depression is at an end in the Blue Lake-Korbelt section. Well—maple not actually but theoretically, at least, as the last of our once large group of unemployed are preparing to return to work a week from Monday when one side of the Korbelt mill is scheduled to begin operations.

For several weeks, wood crew, repair gangs and train crews have been working to get ready for the opening of the mill. With every available worker in Korbelt employed and most of the Blue Lake men at work at present, nearly every house in Korbelt is occupied as many families have moved there the past few weeks. This augmentation of population has necessitated the appointment of a third teacher to the Korbelt school.

Already the Korbelt pond is being filled with logs....Possibly times are not as good as they were in 1930 and previously, but with every available worker in this section either at work or slated for employment within a week and a half, old man depression has received a tremendous jolt and recovery is well along its way to normal times.

BLA (23 Sept. 1933) Korbelt Active After Being Closed Since Summer of 1931—The town of Korbelt is humming with activity, the mill of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. having resumed manufacturing operations last Monday with 300 men back at work after a lapse since July 1931.

The confectionary, pool hall, post office and store, under Manager Fred McFarland, are doing a rushing business. The cook house crew are again serving meals to the single men and all the houses are filled with workers' families. At night the town is lighted up with electric lights, the first in a number of months.

At the present time, the mill is operating two saw rigs on a schedule calling for five days of seven hours and ten minutes and one day (Saturday) of four hours and ten minutes. Woods crews have been engaged for several weeks in preliminary work to the opening. The logging railroad is operating again, while the planing mill is expected to start next week and shipment of finished lumber over the A.&M.R. railroad to the Arcata wharf expected to start shortly thereafter. H.R. Lowell, general manager, has been a busy man for some weeks past, handling hundreds of details attending the reopening of the big plant and now has a complete office staff at work handling the bookkeeping end of the business.

AU (13 Feb. 1942) 26 Men Now Employed on Project; F.A. Rodgers Here to Direct Work—Reconstruction of the Northern Redwood Lumber company plant at Korbelt started this week, F.A. Rodgers in charge of the work, announced last night. Twenty-six men are now employed by Rodgers to dismantle the old mill, including old machinery and other equipment.

Money for reconstruction of the plant comes from the RFC loan given the company several months ago.

Rodgers said the railroad connection would be repaired and continued. However, it is understood the old narrow gauge rails will be taken up and sold. Rodgers said the job of rebuilding and putting the mill in shape was a big one. He could not set a definite time as to when the mill would start operation. He pointed out it would depend a great deal on ability to get certain machinery and other parts. The aim of the company is to cut about 100,000 feet of lumber daily.

One of the present projects is getting the old hotel in condition for the men who are now on the job. A heating unit is being installed, as well as other necessary materials. The old Northern Redwood Lumber Company plant closed in 1934.

AU (3 April 1942) Rehabilitation Work Progresses at Korbelt Plant—Rehabilitation work on the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. plant at Korbelt is well underway under the direction of F.A. Rodgers, manager. A diesel motor was recently installed to generate electricity for the town until the steam plant is ready to operate with the opening of the mill. For over five years, the town was without electricity.

James Martin has opened a café in the former ice cream parlor. The café is open for the public as well as serving as a cookhouse. Martin formerly operated a cookhouse at Bull Creek. A new public library is being built in the former railroad dispatcher office and the hotel is being renovated and remodeled.

A crew of workmen is dismantling the Riverside branch mill and machinery is being sold. Branch railroad spurs in the old lumber yards at Korbelt are being torn up to permit the laying out of a yard which will permit the use of Ross carriers. No definite time has been set for the actual opening of the mill due to difficulties in securing certain necessary materials.

AU (10 April 1942) Old Rails to be Torn Up—The right of way of the Arcata and Mad River railroad through Arcata will be abandoned it was announced Friday evening by F.A. Rodgers, president of the reo-organized Northern Redwood Lumber Co., when he appeared before the City Council. The company plans to use the railroad as far as Korbelt [Korbelt] a short distance north of Arcata to connect with the Northwestern Pacific Railroad line.

BLA (3 April 1943) Korbelt Mill to Start Work Monday, April 12—Opening of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. mill at Korbelt is slated for Monday, April 12, according to announcement made Tuesday by Fentress Hall, president of the firm. One side of the mill will be operated. About 200 men will be employed, most of whom already have been engaged.

Full operation of the mill, one of the larger in the redwood area, probably will not be undertaken until after the war, due to manpower shortage.

The Korbelt mill closed down in 1931 and remained closed for two years. Reopening in 1933, the plant ran for ten months and then closed and has remained closed from that time. About two years ago, preliminary plans for rehabilitation and reopening were announced. Early last year, the actual work of rebuilding was commenced. This involved an immense amount of work, including reconstruction of parts of the railroad and repair, and improvements of mill yards, grounds and buildings.

Ross carriers replace the old monorail system of handling lumber and sorting tables have been replaced.

Logging operations have been underway for some time and the pond holds sufficient logs to assure steady operations. In the meantime the company made a financial readjustment and paid timber taxes of more than \$200,000 to Humboldt and Del Norte counties, releasing a vast quantity of timber which is now clear for logging.

F.A. Rodgers has been resident manager in charge of rehabilitation and is now resident manager in charge of operations. E.C. Morrison is in charge of the office and office work at Korbelt.

BLA (17 April 1943) Korbelt Mill Started Operations Monday, Mill Modernized—The sound of the big whistle at Korbelt rang out Monday with a joyous note in its deep toned sound for residents of Blue Lake, as well as those of Korbelt. After many months of preparation, the big mill was ready to start actual sawing. A trial run had been made Saturday and all was in readiness for the big saw, logs came up from the pond, and lumber passed to the sorting tables and old times were back again for this section. F.A. Rodgers, resident manager, wore a broad smile as the wheels began to turn, signaling the culmination of his months of hard work restoring and modernizing, not only the mill, yards and other facilities, but also the company town as well.

About 200 men are employed in operating one side of the mill and there are logs enough in the pond to ensure continuous operation. Manpower shortage may prevent opening of the other side of the mill until after the war.

HT (27 Aug. 1944) A story of Industry; Cargoes for the Ships. Humboldt Redwood Mills feature (actually one of a series of ads by several redwood companies). It was clear to the directors that the problem was serious. Engaging their ships in trade with the Orient and the South Pacific should be a profitable business, but there were times when returns were singularly disappointing. There was a several difficulties at the root of the problem. To show a profit, it was necessary for the ships to travel both ways as near completely loaded as possible, and it was also necessary for them to make at least fairly frequent trips. The capital investment in each ship was too great to permit any profits if only partial capacity loads were carried or if the ships stayed at anchor, unused, for any extended period during the year. But it was obvious that the present amount of cargoes to Pacifica were not sufficient to fill their ships frequently enough for maximum use. However, the solution for their problem came when they observed the procedure of Capt. Robert

Dollar of the Dollar Lines. The venerable captain has proceeded to secure an interest in several lumber mill—one in Eureka—and when no other cargo was available, he engaged in the lumber exporting business and so the directors of the Charles Nelson Company, owners of the Nelson Steamship Lines of San Francisco, decided to do likewise. So when rumor reached them that the mill of the Korbel Brothers on the North Fork of Mad River was for sale, they decided to purchase it.

However, the management of a shipping company and the management of a lumber mill were clearly two different things. Since the Riverside Lumber Co. had an excellent record for efficient operation, Henry W. Jackson, Frank Graham and Louis Everding were consulted. A new corporation, the Northern Redwood Lumber Company was chartered in February 1903. This organization bought the Humboldt Lumber Mill Company holdings, which included the Korbel Mill, timberlands, the Arcata and Mad River Railroad and the town of Korbel. The Riverside Lumber Company was merged into the Northern Redwood Lumber Company so the steamship lines had two excellent feeders for their ships.

The arrangement was an admirable one for all concerned. Jackson, Graham, and Everding, because of their long experience in the lumber business, maintained the same positions in the new company...namely, President, Vice-President and Secretary, respectively. And since larger amounts of capital were now available, many changes could be made. The first project undertaken by the new concern was a complete rebuilding of the plant at Korbel. The old mill had become somewhat obsolete and so for six months, while the Riverside Plant ran night and day, the Korbel Mill underwent a thorough overhauling. When it reopened in the fall of 1903, its two band saws and the single band saw of the Riverside Mill could together turn out a huge amount of lumber. Six hundred to 700 men and women were employed and the payroll at one time reached \$125,000 monthly.

But despite this general installation of modern equipment, methods of production in 1903 were in some respects relatively crude. As mentioned, there were band saws in operation, but the edger and trimmer were slow and required much “manhandling” of the lumber. The boards were edged by pushing them by a single saw and then putting them back and cutting the opposite sides. The idea of an edger with a set of moveable saws, which could cut both sides of the board at once hadn’t been developed. The trimmer consisted of a single saw pushed up and down by hand. In the yards, too, there was a considerable amount of hand labor, and although later monorails, cranes and jitneys were installed in 1903, the finished lumber was moved into the yards on little car pushed by the men or pulled by horses. However, in 1903, the Korbel Plant was regarded as a model of mechanical efficiency and as new developments in the industry occurred, they were added until the capacity of the two plants was around 65 million feet of lumber annually.

Finally, after many years of operation, the Riverside Plant was closed down permanently though the equipment was left intact for some years. Then some years later—almost 30 years after the formation of the Northern Redwood Lumber co.—the Korbel Plant was closed down, too. It stood idle for a number of years, until recently, the tremendous national need for lumber in the war effort caused it to be reorganized and reopened and now, once again, the Korbel Mill is an important plant in the Redwood area. (factual data for this article furnished by Mr. H.A. Baldwin) [article written by Earl G. Roberts?]

AU (30 Aug. 1946) Northern Redwood Lumber Co. to Start Operations—The Northern Redwood Lumber Co. [illegible] Humboldt county redwood mill to resume operations in

defiance of union shop demands by striking mill and woods workers. Their logging operations will be resumed on Sept. 3, followed by reopening of the mill Sept. 9.

HT (7 Dec. 1947) Log and Saw. Peak Output for Korbel Operation—You'd never know it to look at it today, but a decade and a half ago, the Northern Redwood Lumber company was dead.

The mill, one of the oldest in the area, was built around 75 years ago and operated with success until the depression 1929, when the books were quietly closed and it went out of business.

But in 1941, the bond mortgage holders decided that the time was ripe to attempt to revitalize the old mill which for 12 years had been gathering rust and antiquity, but no dollars.

They put in charge of the job Fentress Hill, who has made lumber finance his entire professional life. And with Hill as chairman of the bondholders protective committee, the operation started on the long road back.

Under the reorganization plan, the bondholders accepted stock in the company in exchange for the bonds and in one move wiped out the mortgage. Then Hill was successful in refinancing the operation through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The rehabilitation started.

It was a long tough grind to renovate the old machinery, modernize the plant and put it on a paying basis. And the rehabilitation job isn't over yet for there are still more improvements to come.

Since 1941, the Northern Redwood Lumber company has stood idle only nine months—the first nine of the now nearly two-year-old strike of the AFL, Lumber & Sawmill Workers.

But now, it's 1947. The Northern Redwood will complete this month its most successful year since work commenced six years ago. Hill fully expects production to hit the high of 30,000,000 board feet of mostly redwood since January 1.

The operating capacity of the mill is now the largest in history—a daily average varying from 125,000 to 150,000 with its two headrigs.

Recently completed is a new large shipping and storage shed. Next year, modern dry kilns will be added. The kilns will be capable of handling up to 50 per cent of the production for the mill. Enlargement of the drying yard is also being planned.

This winter, for the first time, enough logs have been stored in the cold deck to last until spring. Over 6,000,000 feet of logs now await the saw.

The railway is being extended to reach deeper to the timber lands which are sufficient to last the company for another 35 years without further purchase. The company owns its own railroad, the Arcata and Mad River, which connects with the Northwestern Pacific some seven and a half miles away at Korbel.

Northern Redwood Lumber company is a steam operated mill. Its two sides, nine foot and eight foot bands respectively send the lumber through different pairs of edgers and trimmers to the same green chain.

No. 1 headrig has a 14-inch gun which No. 2 has a 12. The carriages for both are cable driven with air dogs. The larger headrig is operated by a 200 horse steam engine, the smaller by one of 150 horsepower.

Lumber from No. 1 goes through a six-saw, 10 by 72 edger to a 24-foot, 113-saw air trimmer. The course followed by No. 2 is through a five-saw, 8 by 60 edger, to a 32-foot, 17-saw air operated trimmer. Thus No. 2, though outmanned in machinery and power, can take the longest logs and frequently cuts up to 32 footers.

There is a third edger for re-milling mis-manufactured lumber which is hauled off the green chain on a merry-go-round back through the trimmer to the 300-foot green chain again. There is a re-saw both for the green chain and for the planer, a high-speed matcher.

Northern Redwood generates about 1800 horsepower from its eight Dutch oven boilers. Electricity is derived from a 350 kilowatt turbine. The hogs grind up material for the fire which is self-fed from a fuel bin. Now under installation is a lath machine to rescue some of the wood otherwise destined for burning.

The guiding hand behind the revival of the Northern Redwood Lumber company is Fentress Hill, president of the company. When Hill took over, there was only a hulk of a mill, in disuse for some 12 years, and several hundred bond holders. Refinanced through Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the company has been able to meet its debts to show a healthy return to life.

HT (19 Sept. 1948) Log and Saw. Many Pacific Northwestern Firms Move In, by Dick Ryan. When Simpson Logging Company of Shelton, Washington purchased Coast Redwood Company at Klamath last week, it was the latest move of Oregon and Washington lumber concerns into Northern California. Humboldt Plywood division of M&M Woodworking Company of Portland, Eureka Lumber and Crossarm, Big Tree Timber Co., Mutual Plywood, and now Simpson have all moved into the area within the past year. And the influx is by no means over. As one of the men who has come down here from the Northwest said last week, "The Pacific Northwest is becoming logged out. That timber industry must move to new timber lands or perish.

With these firms will come experts in forestry practice and in utilization of timber products. Simpson, for instance, plans to move some of its experts into the Klamath area as soon as possible.

In the north coast counties of California lies one of the last major blocks of virgin timber in the U.S. Only the southern pine region can produce wood as rapidly as this region. Under good forest management, the Northern California counties are capable of maintaining a high level of production of wood and wood products for all time.

HT (27 Feb. 1949) Korbel by Chet Schwarzkopf. Nat Evans: "Anyway, we plugged along all right until the big crash. The company shut down in July 1931. They started up again in Sept. 1933, but all the Nelson interests were in bad way and they shut her down for good again in July 1934. From then until Fentriss Hill re-organized the company in 1942, Korbel was idle." Ed Morrison: "And the mill actually started running again for the first time April 12, 1943."

HT (25 Sept. 1949) Log and Saw—Simpson-NRL Contract Means Big Expansion for Korbel Lumber Mill—An enormous program of expansion was announced this week by Fentriss Hill, president of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co., at Korbel, which will mean the employment of more men and the possibility that the mill will be operated on a double shift, day and night basis.

He said agreement had been reached with Simpson Logging Company of Shelton and Seattle, enabling the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. to handle and market the entire output of the Klamath Simpson plant, which is expected to amount to 70,000 board feet of lumber per day, all being trucked to Korbel for drying, finishing and shipping.

A six-acre drying, storage and shipping yard has been completed at Riverside by the Korbel firm, which will handle the Simpson production. Hill indicated it might be increased to a

total of 140,000 feet daily by the first part of next year. The Simpson company owns more than a billion feet of timber at the mouth of the Klamath river, it was reported.

“Activity at Korbelt will be greatly increased by this arrangement,” Hill stated. “We will hire more men and many of our manufacturing facilities will have to be run night and day.”

It was reported from Klamath that the Simpson firm this week started trucking lumber to the new storage and drying yard. Upper grades of lumber will be struck there and later put through the Korbelt manufacturing facilities, preparatory to shipping.

According to the Blue Lake Advocate, a three or four acre shipping yard also has been prepared by the NRL at Riverside and leased to Addison & Sons Lumber Co., which will haul the entire output of its mill at Maple Creek to the new yard. The Addison firm has installed a planer and now can complete manufacture of all its own lumber. Previously, rough lumber was trucked to Arcata for surfacing.

A truck road connecting the yards with the highway has been completed and a spur track was run to the Addison yard. The Arcata and Mad River railroad there will be transporting the entire output of the three mills.

In preparation for processing the Simpson lumber production, the NRL has recently completed five large dry kilns, each with a capacity of 60,000 board feet. The five kilns can turn out a total of 1,000,000 feet of dried lumber each month. The kilns, with their auxiliaries, represent an investment of \$250,000, Hill said.

According to Charles J. Williams, president of the Moore Dry Kiln Co. of Jacksonville, Fla. and Portland, and his engineer, Joseph Steele, who were in Korbelt this week, these new units were designed as “the most modern on the Pacific Coast.” The building of the kilns was under the supervision of Val Meyer, NRL construction superintendent.

Further improvements at Korbelt are rapidly being completed and a new Yates N-60 vertical resaw is being installed and is expected to be in operation within three weeks. The resaw has tilting rolls, which will make it possible to cut beveled siding.

In addition to the new resaw will be a \$250,000 addition to the mill. In addition, a new resorter is being built and is expected to be in use within six weeks.

Hill said, “When these improvements and additions are all completed, we will have a thoroughly modern, well-equipped plant.” All of the work is being done under the supervision of Nat Evans, plant superintendent for NRL.

BLA (11 March 1950) NRL Co. starting night shifts; New resident manager. Photo. R.V. Nicholas assumed charge of all milling operations at Korbelt Monday as resident manager for the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. He immediately announced that night shifts would be started on the two headrigs, starting one side next week and the other as soon as men were available.

A night shift was added to the planing mill and that plant is operating now in a two-shift basis. Mr. Nicholas stated that an additional 60 to 70 men would be employed in the Korbelt plant and maybe more would be required when the mill gets to operating at full capacity.

AU (17 Oct. 1952) Special Simpson Logging Edition; Section Introduces a New Industry in Arcata Area—[new remanufacturing mill opened on Arcata Bottom]. This special supplement of the Arcata Union introduces a new industry of the Arcata community, the Simpson Logging Company, which has recently placed in operation here one of the newest remanufacturing plants in the redwood industry.

As other stories in this issue relate, the Simpson Logging Company is a pioneer wood products organization and its development on a 150-acre site in West Arcata is the latest in a series of steps which have broadened the company's program in late years.

Construction of the Simpson plant has been under way for the past 18 months. Major buildings are completed and in operation but additions and other developments are in planning for future years. The appointment recently of William E. Lawson as general manager of Simpson's redwood operations in Del Norte and Humboldt counties completes the management lineup which the company has been organizing over a period of months....

Simpson's Arcata plant is at present operating two shifts and employing 106 people. Its production for the year is to be approximately 25 million feet of remanufactured lumber and additional footage in green timber.

All timber cut by the Simpson sawmill at Klamath for the Arcata operation is transported by the Fehely Truck Company of Klamath....[by 1895, Sol Simpson and Alfred Anderson had founded the Simpson Logging Company]

HT (27 Jan. 1956) Simpson Buys Korbel; 30,000 Acres Timber, Railroad and Mill Included in Purchase—Simpson Redwood Co. has offered to purchase the entire capital stock of the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. at Korbel, it was revealed yesterday by C.G. Price, president of the Korbel concern. The offer is being submitted to the stockholders of Northern Redwood with a recommendation from the directors that it be approved.

Subject to stockholders' approval, which, according to informed sources, seemed assured, the management of the properties will be transferred to the Simpson organization by March 1, Price said. Although Simpson's offer was for an undisclosed sum, the transaction is understood to be one of the largest to occur in this county in recent years.

The properties involved in this sale, including more than 30,000 acres of Northern Redwood Co. timberlands, the mills at Korbel and the Arcata & Mad River railroad, will be placed under general supervision of W.E. Lawson, vice-president and general manager of the Simpson Redwood Company at Arcata....

AU (27 Jan. 1956) Simpson May Buy Northern Redwood Concern; Deal Virtually Made; Transfer of Property Would be by March 1st—Simpson has offered to purchase the entire capital stock of the NRL Co. at Korbel, it was revealed last night by C.G. Price, president.

The offer is being submitted to the stockholders of Northern Redwood with a recommendation from the directors that it be approved.

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The properties involved in this sale, including over 30,000 acres of Northern Redwood Co. timberlands, the mills at Korbel, and the Arcata and Mad River railroad will be placed under general supervision of W.E. Lawson, vice-president and general manager of the Simpson Redwood Co. of Arcata.

The major portion of Northern Redwood Co. timberlands having been cut over, there is an insufficient supply of raw material behind the mills to permit profitable, long-term operation of the company, Price told the Arcata Union editor, pointing out that these same cut-over and second-growth lands explained Simpson's interest in making the purchase. These lands contain

second growth timber of age classes fitting in with Simpson's long-range sustained yield objectives in northern California, said Lawson.

Concerning his plans for continued operation of the woods, mills, and railroad of Northern Redwood Lumber Co., employing some 250 people, Lawson said, if Northern Redwood stockholders approve the transaction, the company will continue for the immediate future to be operated at present with no changes contemplated in policy or personnel.

AU (29 June 1956) Simpson Redwood Buys Sage Land, Timber Stock—W.E. Lawson, vice-president and general manager of Simpson Redwood Co., announced the acquisition of capital stock of the Sage Land and Lumber Co., Inc. June 5th

Over 70,000 acres of land were involved in the transaction. The timber lands are located in two major blocks in Humboldt and Mendocino counties. The Humboldt block is adjacent to and intermixed with current Simpson Redwood Company holdings and advance Simpson's previously announced sustained yield objectives. The Mendocino principal block is known as the Usal tract and does not fall within Simpson's operating area, and is therefore being sold to Union Lumber Co. of Fort Bragg.

It was also announced by W.E. Lawson that the Simpson Redwood Co. has been established as a separate corporate entity, although it remains a wholly-owned subsidiary of Simpson Timber Co. of Seattle.

AU (18 Nov. 1960) Simpson Name Changed to Simpson Timber Co. in Consolidation Move From Simpson Redwood Co. to Simpson Timber Co.

HT (8 Dec. 1965) Simpson Buys 35,000 Acres of Timberland—Simpson Timber Co. is purchasing a plywood plant at Arcata, and Humboldt, Del Norte and Mendocino county timber holdings formerly owned by Weyerhaeuser Company.

The company is purchasing the holdings of R.H. Emmerson and Son of Arcata and from James Laier and Henry Trione of Santa Rosa who themselves recently purchased the properties.

Simpson President C. Henry Bacon, Jr. said in Seattle yesterday that 35,000 acres of cut over and new growth land, and the cutting rights to more than 100 million board feet of old growth—mainly Douglas fir—is involved in the transaction....He said Simpson will not decide what disposition to make of the plywood plant until it has completed extensive economic studies....

The purchase increases Simpson timberland ownership in the Redwood Region to 245,000 acres....Humboldt Flakeboard, a newly-formed California corporation will retain the Arcata particleboard plant, which it purchased from Weyerhaeuser. Flakeboard also originally purchased the plywood mill from Weyerhaeuser.

T-S (10 Oct. 1967) Simpson Buys U.S. Plywood at Fairhaven—Simpson Timber Co. today announced an \$18 million plus deal with U.S. Plywood-Champion Paper, Inc., involving operations in Oregon and California including the Mutual Plywood plant at Fairhaven.

Simpson is acquiring from U.S. Plywood the Fairhaven operation, along with 3,400 acres of second growth timberland in the Bald Hills area east of Orick and first-right options to buy 250 million board feet of Douglas fir in the eastern portion of Humboldt County. [more]

BLA (1 Feb. 1968) Simpson Timber seeds 3583 acres with fir [aerial seeding in Humboldt and Del Norte counties]

AU (2 Aug. 1968) Simpson buys mill, modernizes at Korb—Simpson Timber Co. today announced a \$4,100,000 modernization of its Korb sawmill and the purchase of the Van De Nor Lumber Co. sawmill at Arcata, as an interim production facility. The announcement was made in Seattle by President C.H. Bacon, Jr.

The Van De Nor mill was closed two weeks ago by the owners, Wm. And Richard Norris. Simpson is acquiring only the sawmill and associated equipment, according to Bacon. Simpson will begin operating the mill one shift daily in September with 35 men and will add a second shift next year, while the Korb mill is shut down, according to J.R. Perry, production manager, redwood, Arcata.

Engineering, under the direction of Ken Good and his staff, is well underway. It is expected that work on the initial phases of the Korb modernization will begin this fall, Perry said. Early next year, the Korb mill will shut down for about five months while the major work is completed. Improvements scheduled include replacing the boiler, remodeling the re-mill department, completely rebuilding the entire head end of the mill and installing a new hydraulic barker.

The Korb mill was originally built in the early 1900s, but has been substantially improved several times. Simpson acquired it in 1956 with the purchase of Northern Redwood Lumber Co. Simpson's Klamath sawmill will continue to operate two shifts a day. The Korb renovation is necessary to maintain Simpson's efficient production of redwood lumber over the next several years. The Van De Nor Mill was built in 1951.

BLA (17 Oct. 1968) \$4,100,000 Korb Modernization Underway—Work is underway on a \$4,100,000 modernization of Simpson's Korb Sawmill. It is expected to maintain its competitive ability in redwood for years to come.

Engineering is well along and actual work on the mill is expected to begin soon, according to J.R. Perry, redwood production manager, Arcata. These improvements will include replacing the boiler, remodeling the remill department, completely rebuilding the head end of the mill and installing a new hydraulic barker.

In order to maintain redwood timber production during the Korb improvement, Simpson purchased and began operating on Sept. 3, a sawmill at Arcata which was formerly owned by Van De Nor Lumber Co. The Korb mill will be closed about five months next year for remodeling.

BLA (31 Oct. 1968) Simpson to Re-Open Plywood Plant [Eureka Plywood Plant, 90 new jobs] The company already is operating the Mad River Plywood Plant at Arcata and the Fairhaven Plywood Plant on the Samoa Peninsula. [more]

BLA (30 Jan. 1969) Simpson Reports 356 New Jobs, Record Payroll [1968, long article, Simpson's Reforestation Program for 1968 completed]

BLA (27 Feb. 1969) Simpson Timber's Net Sales for 1968 Highest Record.

AU (4 Dec. 1969) Photo. \$5 million in improvements; Simpson Timber reopens Korb mill after 7 months, Korb—Simpson Timber Company this week at Korb has started up its redwood

sawmill following completion of a \$5,000,000 modernization program. Closed since last May 2, the mill has undergone a remarkable transformation

“We have begun regular production at the mill, but it will take some time to build up to full capacity,” said J.R. Perry, production manager, redwood, Arcata. “This major investment will greatly strengthen Simpson’s redwood program and is a measure of the faith we have in the redwood business over the long term.”

The schedule calls for running one “side” of the mill to begin with and adding the second side as soon as practicable. (The Korbelt mill continues to be a two-sided mill, i.e., two production lines in one building.) Production and employment at the mill will be about the same as before.

Meanwhile, the swingshift at the Arcata Sawmill has been curtailed and employees there transferred back to Korbelt. Simpson acquired the Arcata Sawmill from Van DE Nor Lumber Company in 1968 to maintain lumber production while the Korbelt mill was closed down. The Arcata Sawmill is continuing to run one shift daily and Simpson’s Klamath Sawmill is continuing on a two shift operation.

When both sides are operating, the Korbelt mill employs 57 men on one shift, according to Crosby Beedy, plant manager. Bob Spaletta is the day shift foreman. The modernization project has been supervised by engineers Ken Good, now retired, and Bob Miller.

An amazing change has taken place at the old Korbelt mill in just seven months. Inside a clean white building, green painted new machinery is producing redwood lumber. Overhead banks of fluorescent fixtures brightly bathe the work areas in light.

Major parts of the modernization include new equipment in the head end of the mill and a new building to house it, a completely new resaw department, two 600,000 gallon Simpson wood stave tanks for fire protection, a new steam boiler and a new fuel bin. The former log pond has given way to a dry pond operation.

Simpson acquired the Korbelt operation in 1956 when it purchased the Northern Redwood Lumber Co. The redwood remanufacturing facilities at Korbelt were extensively modernized several years ago.

Perry said that visitors will not be allowed through the mill for several weeks, until the shakedown phase has been completed and the operation is running smoothly.

AU (2 March 1978) Simpson Timber Co. President Gilbert L. Oswald has announced a “long-term commitment to continue operations in California despite land grabs and excessive regulation by the State of California.”

Included in the commitment are a \$700,000 program of environmental improvements at the company’s Mad River plywood plant and a \$1.2 million investment in reforestation and intensive forest management, all in 1978....

Reforestation and intensive forest management would include the out planting of 4.5 million seedlings from Simpson’s Korbelt Nursery in Humboldt and Del Norte counties, brush control and pre-commercial thinning. The 9-million seedling capacity nursery is now in its 3rd season of operation.

T-S (25 March 1979) Special—Humboldt County, 1849-1979, 130 years of Growth, parts I and II. Part II. The Korbels...Bohemians in Humboldt by Dan Guy, 1927 Riverside mill closed down.

AU (9 Aug. 1979) Simpson Timber Co., one of the county's three largest employers, last week announced plans to lay off nearly 400 workers over the next two years. The layoffs will result from what a Simpson official called a "realignment" of the company's operations, as the company changes its emphasis from old-growth timber to new-growth. Company will close Mad River plywood plant by Nov. 2. The company would also undertake a modernization program at the Fairhaven plywood plant. Changes at the Simpson's Korbel sawmill and other operations will result in a reduction of an additional 80 jobs over next two years.

The company will put \$33 million into capital improvements over the next two years, most of that at the Korbel mill, which will be redesigned to handle smaller logs.

AU (9 Aug. 1979) Message to the Community 1. Mad River Plywood will be closed permanently; 2. Fairhaven Plywood will undergo major changes; 3. Klamath mill upgraded; 4. The Korbel sawmill will be modified to process small logs from 5 to 24 inches in diameter. The headrig moved to Klamath will be replaced with new equipment. Korbel will saw fir as well as redwood. Remanufacturing facilities at Korbel will be modified; 5. Arcata Remanufacturing facilities will remain for present; 6. Build new roads to young stands in Mad River drainage. [reason for all of this is nearly end of supply of old growth.

AU (13 March 1980) Simpson veterans call it a day after 46 years. Robert Miller and Carl Swanson. Miller has supervised the engineering of many major changes in Simpson's redwood manufacturing operations including the current conversion at Korbel to young growth manufacturing capability.

AU (10 April 1980) [Arcata Redwood Co. laying off workers; LP shut temporarily] Simpson has benefitted from its recent realignment towards a commitment to young growth.

AU (16 Oct. 1980) Simpson-Korbel nears start-up of \$15 million young growth mill—Simpson Timber Co., which has invested \$15 million in upgrading its Korbel mill, expects to inaugurate its shift to second growth milling late this month. Part of a \$33 million capital expenditure which includes Simpson's Fairhaven Plywood mill and its Klamath old growth mill, the Korbel operation will feature the state of the art computer technologies....

Simpson estimates it has 12 to 13 years of old growth left. Paul Evans said the Korbel band saw which now handles the big logs will be shifted to Klamath, once refitting operations are complete. "Everything will be done by the end of 1981," Evan said....

The configuration of Simpson's Korbel mill is geared for the interim period with a mix of redwood and Douglas fir being produced. [more about computerization]

Photo: Destined for Klamath—This moveable carriage rig has served the old growth needs of Simpson for years....

AU (5 Feb. 1981) Henry Trobitz retires, 32 years with Simpson.

AU (5 Feb. 1981) Simpson retools Klamath Plant; \$2,250,000 remodeling and modernization program....The company's sawmill at Korbel has been virtually rebuilt and is in the startup phases of operating on young growth timber, 24 inches and less in diameter. Major modernization of Simpson's Fairhaven Plywood Plant also has been completed.

AU (16 July 1981) Simpson to shut down Fairhaven plywood plant, Aug. 1, [depressed housing market the cause] Simpson's Klamath sawmill reopened this week following an eight-week, \$2 million remodeling program. Two years ago Simpson undertook a large-scale capital improvement program, spending approximately \$57 million to refurbish mills, build road and purchase new equipment. Much of the work was done to prepare for harvesting new-growth redwood.

AU (16 July 1981) Sawmill resumes operation—A remodeled Simpson Timber Co. Klamath sawmill resumed operations this week as one of the most modern and efficient large log facilities on the west coast....\ Klamath mill will handle only redwood logs 34 inches in diameter and larger....The Klamath project is part of Simpson's \$57 million capital improvement program in northern California which started in 1979 and is to be completed by the end of the year.

Simpson's local improvement program has also included modification of the Korbelt sawmill to convert it to a young growth manufacturing facility, extensive improvements at the Fairhaven Plywood Plant and new road and logging equipment for young growth timber management.

AU (27 Aug. 1981) Timber co. executives bracing for lengthy slump.

T-S (13 Sept. 1981) Simpson promotes two to management positions....The company's completely renovated small-log sawmill at Korbelt will now be managed by Stanley F. Figgins. Figgins had been superintendent of the Fairhaven plywood plant which is on indefinite production curtailment due to market conditions.

T-S (24 Oct. 1981) Simpson ready to harvest young timber. By Mike Chapman. Simpson Timber co.'s Korbelt mill is processing young growth redwood almost exclusively after the company recently invested \$16 million to remodel and update the facility with computers.

T-S (20 July 1982) Simpson to close Fairhaven plywood plant permanent. By Mike Chapman....About 200 plant employees were laid off last August when Simpson closed the plant for an indefinite period of time. The closure was blamed on poor market conditions.

T-S (25 July 1984) Plans to spray a fungicide on lumber produced at Korbelt were discussed between Union and management; tetrachlorophenol. Opposition from workers.

T-S (13 May 1985) Renovations of Korbelt mill begins in fall. By Gina Bentzley. Korbelt—A major renovation of the Simpson Timber Co.'s sawmill this fall will increase production, cut labor expenses and make the company more cost competitive, Hank Sandstrom, vice-president of the firm's redwood operations, said this week.

Key in the \$13.5 million plant overhaul, which will require the plant to close down for four months starting in October, will be the installation of computerized equipment that will cut the workforce by about 60 people.

Along with the changes ahead at Korbelt, the company's Klamath sawmill will go to one shift in April next year, forcing the elimination of about 40 jobs.

“We’re still going to use the same volume of logs, as before, we’ll just do it with 100 less people,” he said.

Despite the cut in workers, the Korbelt mill will produce more lumber than before. After the renovations are complete, the Korbelt sawmill will begin handling the smaller old growth logs that the second shift at Klamath was cutting, bringing the Korbelt output up from 600,000 board feet a day to 680,000 board feet.

The newly-renovated sawmill will simplify the milling process by reducing the number of different lines the wood follows. “What we have not is a typical old-growth, mill where everything goes around in a circle.”

When the mill is gutted and redesigned, four basic lumber lines will be reduced to two before the wood is sorted.

Larger logs will be broken down on a new head rig, then sent to a new twin, horizontal resaw, where two or three boards can be cut at the same time. From there, the logs will travel either to a new computerized optimizing edger or to two existing edgers which will have new set works installed....

The logs will be graded b hand and sent to the trimmer. “Grading is about the only thing that can’t be done by computers,” Sandstrom said. [more]

The sorter, a whiz if ever there was one, not only sorts the wood, eliminating a lot of additional human handling of wood, but also bundles it. Korbelt produces four types of redwood produced: rough green, surfaced green rough dry and surfaced dry.

Caption under photo: When remodeling is complete, the Korbelt green chain will fade into logging history.

T-S (2 Nov. 1985) Simpson’s Korbelt sawmill shuts down for four months. By Gina Bentzley....The key to the remodeling will be a modern computerized system for sorting sawn lumber. In all, about 65 of the 270 workers at Korbelt will lose their jobs....Changing the sawmill from a traditional design for milling old-growth lumber to a modern plant will be accompanied by an extensive training program for employees.

T-S (2 Nov. 1985) Korbelt AU (6 May 1988) Orick News—Some Orick residents were surprised to learn of Simpson Timber Company’s plans to buy out Arcata Redwood Co. Others say they had been hearing rumors for quite awhile. Those who work for Arcata Redwood Co. are certainly wondering what happens after June 30.

T-S (13 Oct. 1987) High tech hits Simpson’s Korbelt Mill. By Marie Gravelle....The mill is largely computerized with employees operating the equipment from inside safety rooms overlooking the complex machinery. Douglas fir or redwood logs under 30 inches in diameter are processed at this mill. \$13 million; we essentially rebuilt the inside of the mill.

T-S (18 July 1990) Simpson logs a milestone, 100 years photo of headrig control room.

T-S (26 June 1991) Korbelt by Kathy Dillon. Hotel torn down in 1959. Korbelt were Bohemian immigrants, who had begun acquiring vast vineyards and lumber mills in Sonoma County in 1862. Needed more lumber for wine vats. Purchased 160 acres from Fredrick Burg, named

Korbel with post office 24 June 1891; Sold to Nelson Co. in 1903; Hotel built in 1908; 40 rooms, private baths, 2 large dining rooms, etc. Company town.

T-S (8 Jan. 1995) Photo of mill from 1955, Genzoli

T-S (16 Aug. 1996) After eight years under the same ownership, but separate company organizations, Simpson Redwood Co. and Arcata Redwood Company are consolidating their administrations.

Arcata Eye (8 June 1999) Sun Valley Buys Simpson [big plant on Arcata bottom]

T-S (12 Feb. 2004) Simpson Resource Co. will go by Green Diamond Resource Co. Simpson Resource looks over long-term at timber, biology and regulatory climate; Simpson Timber is in marketing and pricing.

T-S (21 Sept. 2007) Simpson Timber Company's California operations were acquired earlier this year by Green Diamond Resource Co., but retained the same name until now. This division of Green Diamond Resource Co. which includes the Korbel and Orick sawmills. Korbel, Brainard and Samoa remanufacturing facilities, and the Samoa chip dock will now be called California Redwood Co. Green Diamond and California Redwood will continue to operate as two separate companies.

T-S (2 Oct. 2007) California Redwood Co., previously Simpson Timber Co., was acquired by Green Diamond earlier this year.

Press Release (28 July 2009) (on line) California Redwood Company on Green Diamond Resource Co. letterhead, Jackie Deuschle Miller—California Redwood Company announced today that it will close its Orick Mill, Oct. 15, 2009. Orick sawmill was acquired by Simpson Lumber Co. (now California Redwood Co) from Arcata Redwood Company in 1988. The sawmill has been in operation since 1954 [sic]. 43 hourly and 4 salaried jobs eliminated. Large logs will go to Korbel sawmill. Transfer of head rig and edger from Orick to Korbel to be completed by January 2010. California Redwood Co. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Green Diamond Resource Co. of Seattle.

T-S (1 May 2014) California Redwood to leave redwood lumber business—Green Diamond Resource Co. officials announced on Wednesday that its subsidiary is getting out of the redwood lumber business, transitioning to Douglas fir timber by year's end. The shift will affect up to 80 workers.

The California Redwood Co. will continue to process its remaining redwood log inventory and supply customers from existing redwood lumber inventories over the next few months while exiting the business....This move will enable Green Diamond to focus on our strengths and to add value to our timber lands.\ The Seattle-headquartered Green Diamond will phase out the transfer of redwood logs to California Redwood Co. for milling. Its redwood logs will instead be sold to other manufacturers. Green Diamond will continue to harvest Douglas fir and they will be processed at Korbel mill...phasing out Brainard remanufacturing facility.

Simpson Retiree News (June 2014) Green Diamond Resource Co. announced at the end of April that its subsidiary, California Redwood Co., would transition out of the redwood lumber business in California....logs will be sold to other redwood lumber manufacturers.

North Coast Journal Blog (14 Oct. 2014) Korbel Mill for Sale, photo

DNT (9 Dec. 2014) Shutdown of Korbel Sawmill Looming...Feb. 2015. Timber giant owns 1.3 million acres, including 93,185 acres in Del Norte Co.; 106 employees. Recently purchased 600,000 acres in south-central Oregon. Today 47,000 acres of Blue Creek have been sold or being sold to Western Rivers Conservancy and Yurok Tribe. Focus on managing and harvesting, not manufacturing.

North Coast Journal (5 Feb. 2015) Closing 5 Feb., photo of log "Korbel 1/29/2015 last log."