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## THE WEST SHORE.

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THE success of the artesian well at Miles City has stimulated the boring of others in Eastern Montana. One recently bored on a ranch north of the Yellowstone flows eighty gallons per minute. This indicates that much of that vast upland region lying back from, and above the level of, the streams, which has been considered valueless for agriculture because beyond the reach of irrigation by ordinary methods, may be redeemed from sterility and rendered productive. The transformation created by irrigating canals in the arid regions of California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado and other Western states and territories has been so great that land lying within reach of irrigating canals is considered very valuable, while equally good land lying at a higher altitude above the running streams is considered worthless. If artesian wells can supply these highlands with sufficient water there is no reason why the productive agricultural area of Montana should not be largely increased in the next few years.

PRESIDENT HILL, of the Manitoba road, has definitely stated that his line will be extended from Devil's lake to Fort Buford, on the Missouri, in November. If this prove to be true, Northern Montana will have a new and shorter route to the East at once, as it will cut off four hundred miles of the river navigation now necessary to reach the Northern Pacific at Bismarck. The further extension of the road next season to Fort Benton, and via the Montana Central to Great Falls and Helena, will give transportation facilities to a region of magnificent resources, whose development has been retarded by the difficulties of reaching the markets of the world.

THE attention of immigrants should be drawn to land lying outside of the principal valleys. All along the foothills and up the lower slopes of the mountains lying on either side of the valleys, can be found desirable land that will make homes for thousands. No soil on the Pacific slope surpasses it in productiveness. It is not necessary that the land should be at once cleared of all, or even of any large portion, of the forest. There is an indigenous growth of fine grass, and all that is needed is to scatter red and white clover seed to insure a splendid range for stock. The early rains will start the seed, and e'er one is aware, the clover is half knee high. Afterwards, the clearing of brush and small trees may be carried forward. Far better occupy the low hill land, and secure a good home near the older settlements, than spend time and money in search of a place at a greater distance. Oregon, both sides of the Willamette, and Washington, from the Columbia, all along Skamania and Clarke counties, and to the north, have room in their low hills, for large settlements. They will be occupied and the families who are now securing permanent homes there are wise. Sheep and cattle should have shelter from snow and heavy rains, and when, for a short time, snow lies on the ground they should be fed; but it is the experience of many, that stock winter over and take good care of themselves during the rainy season. The healthfulness of the climate on these mountain slopes is too well known to require mention.

ON other pages of this issue are presented a number of sketches taken in the Chinese quarters of Portland, accompanied by a descriptive article which deals only with facts and relates only what are matters of common knowledge among those at all familiar with that portion of the city. The position taken on the Chinese question by the great majority of residents of the Pacific coast, is that, while the presence of that race here is undesirable and can be considered only in the light of an industrial invasion, yet, being here legally, they are entitled to protection in their lives, property and right to labor, and that all efforts to deprive them of any of these should be suppressed by the strong arm of the law. These sketches, however, have no political import, but are presented solely for the purpose of introducing the readers of THE WEST SHORE to scenes such as one would not expect to find within the confines of the United States.

THE Island railway, running from Esquimalt (near Victoria) to Nanaimo, B. C., has been completed, and begins operation the present month. Two trains will be run each way daily. Under the influence of this enterprise the eastern side of Vancouver island should advance rapidly in wealth, population and production.