

OVERLOOKED OPPORTUNITIES.

We were making some inquiries today in reference to various matters and in conversation with a man who was in a position to know we learned some things that should be of interest to this community. The fact is that many products that are used in large quantities in Roseburg and Douglas county and which could be produced here just as well as elsewhere are shipped here from other markets.

Flour is one illustration. Most of the flour that is sold here is milled in Seattle, St. Paul, Minneapolis or other Eastern points. Oregon soil, according to the United States government reports is well adapted to raising both winter and spring wheat. The average yield of winter wheat per acre in Oregon is 23.7 bushels; of spring wheat 18 bushels. In only one state in the union is the average crop per acre greater than in this state. In Wyoming the yield per acre is 25 bushels. In New York and Idaho the average crop is the same as in this state. This is a clear indication that Oregon soil is productive of wheat. But it is not raised in sufficient quantities to justify establishing a large milling industry. If there is enough profit in the crop it would pay Douglas county farmers to produce more wheat.

Hay is still another crop of which there is not enough raised in this county to supply the local needs. Many tons of hay are shipped in from the upper and lower Willamette valley every year. The farm lands of this country are rich in their production of hay. Yet it is not raised for a commercial purpose. The government report says that the average yield per acre for hay in this country is more than two tons.

Oats in this county are so scarce that they must be shipped in from the same points as the hay. Yet this soil according to the report heretofore mentioned produces between 35 and 37 bushels to the acre. Only four or five states in the country have a greater average yield. Still each year Douglas county consumers must purchase oats raised at some other point and then shipped in here.

The corn that is consumed in the local market is shipped here from Nebraska and other states neighboring on that great corn belt. Yet Nebraska, the greatest corn raising state in the entire world has an average yield of only 25.8 bushels per acre. Oregon soil produced in the same year an average of 25.5 bushels per acre—just three tenths bushels less per acre than Nebraska. This is surely another neglected opportunity.

Barley is produced in this state 31.5 bushels to the acre. Yet we ship most of that which is used from Washington which produces only 29 bushels to the acre.

These statistics are startling. They show that there are many overlooked opportunities of soil cultivation in this great, big, state of ours. We do not think that the price on these commodities would be materially lowered were they raised and sold in this county. That is not the question. It would, however, keep the money in circulation in the local markets. Instead of sending out of the county several hundred thousand dollars each year for these products we would be buying them direct from the farmer here who produced them—thus giving the entire benefit of the circulation of this money locally. There is no reason why these products should not be raised in Douglas county. They can be raised as cheaply and as profitably as apples, prunes and other fruits. The report of the government opens up to the farmers of Douglas county another avenue for soil culture. And the government report is based on fact—not conjecture.

BUSINESS.

Bank statements are a good barometer of the business conditions of any given community. These statements are required of National Banks under the National Banking Law, and must be published according to the provisions of that law in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county where the bank making the statement has its place of business. Banks are and should be the most cautious of all business institutions. In them the public reposes its business faith and credit. In the integrity and fidelity of the officers of the bank the depositors and customers place their business safety. When banks show a healthy business condition it is a safe indication that the community in which those banks are located is also in a healthy condition. Banks reflect almost instantly the

rise or fall of business. Business depressions are noticeable by the bank statements and their comparison with former statements of the same banks.

The News prints today in another column the statement of one of Roseburg's national banks. The statement is dated April 18. The last statement of the same bank is dated February 20. A comparison is interesting for the purpose of indicating that the business of this community is and has been good the past two months and that given normal conditions it will continue to be good. The April statement shows an increase of sixty five per cent in the amount of cash in the vault and banks, an increase of twenty per cent in deposits and an increase of about three per cent in loans and discounts. The total assets of the bank show an increase of between fourteen and fifteen per cent—which is a large increase in assets. The increase in liabilities is small—about three per cent. The statement is a splendid showing for any bank to make and to a large extent measures the business conditions of this city and surrounding country generally.

The News is not pessimistic—it believes in optimism. But were it inclined to look on the dark side of things it could find no reason to say that this community is not in a prosperous condition. We believe that business is good. We know that it is much better than in many other Oregon cities. Bank statements tell the tale.

The Belmont Suffrage colony just outside New York which was established more than a year ago to show that women could farm just as well as men have gone back to the city to look for easier jobs. Milking the cows and doing the farm chores may be all right for some girls, but not when they wear French heeled shoes and tight-fitting clothes.

A rich Pennsylvania farmer died the other day and left instruction in her will for her heirs to dig up the ground in a certain place. This was done and the heirs recovered about three thousand dollars in gold. Pretty easy diggin,' as we say here in Roseburg.

Mr. Roosevelt is breaking forth again with such charming phrases as, "It is an unqualified falsehood"; "I deny the charge and brand the accuser a liar". The Annanias Club will be overcrowded before the convention meets in June, we predict.

Tomorrow is Odd Fellow day in Roseburg. The password to the city has been turned over to all visitors and the friendly and brotherly grip will be extended to all who come within our borders. All Roseburg says "Welcome! Odd Fellows!"

A London newspaper says that society women of that city are taking private lessons in order that they may learn to speak properly. Its a pity that they didn't go to school when they were young.

The Japanese have sent a delegation to Europe to study methods of making loans on that continent. They might get to the root of the thing if they came to the U. S. A.

The Arizona state legislature has just rejected woman suffrage. The dispatch does not state, but we presume it was voted on by secret ballot.

This Date in History

- APRIL 25.
- 1599—Oliver Cromwell born. Died September 3, 1658.
- 1635—Sir Fernando Gorges appointed governor-general of New England.
- 1781—Americans under Gen. Greene surprised and defeated by the British near Camden, S. C.
- 1843—Princess Alice, second daughter of Queen Victoria, born. Died December 14, 1878.
- 1849—Political riots in Toronto and Montreal over the rebellion hoases bill.
- 1862—Surrender of New Orleans to Admiral Faragut.
- 1881—Statue of Admiral Faragut unveiled in Washington, D. C.

The Idler's Corner

Wigwag—Have you congratulated the bride and groom?
 Henpeckke—No, sir; I have not. I may be lots of things, but I am no hypocrite."
 Philadelphia Record.

A critic is a man who presumes to forecast the opinion of posterity.



COMING! COMING!

Hot weather and discomfort in the kitchen. But with one of our Blue Flame cookstoves discomfort can be greatly reduced.

We have just received a shipment of the newest stoves embodying all the best improvements. With them you can do practically all the work you can do with a steel range and with less expense and a great deal more pleasure.

Of course we carry gasoline and alcohol stoves if preferred.

Any one of these in connection with a Thermatic Fireless Cooker will give you an ideal summer cooking outfit that you will often use even in winter months.

These summer stoves in run price from \$3 to \$27 so that any pocketbook can be accommodated.

Churchill Hardware Co.

Announcement

TEN ACRE TRACTS

TEN ACRE TRACTS

Riversdale Tracts

Subdivision of the N. Curry Estate Ranch. This well known Ranch has been subdivided and placed upon the market in Ten Acre Tracts.

FRUIT

FRUIT

Riversdale Tracts

are located 5 miles from Roseburg, Oregon, on the North Umpqua River.

FARM

FARM

Riversdale Tracts

are adapted to the raising of Fruits, Vegetables and Farm Products.

GARDEN

GARDEN

LAND

LAND

SOLD ON TERMS.

TEN ACRE TRACTS

TEN ACRE TRACTS

N. Curry Estate, Owners

Riversdale Tracts

Office Masonic Building
 ROSEBURG, OREGON.