

Oregon's Great Future

By A. J. Davis, Roseburg

Oregon, in many respects, is unique and in a class by herself. Her resources are varied and unexcelled—a great state carved out of the wilderness by the pioneers, who were the cream of American Oregon's foundations deep and broad; ever inspired with a love of justice, patriotism and progress. Oregon offers unexcelled opportunities to the hustler and home-builder. To the stockman she beckons and points to her great cattle ranges. To the grain grower and farmer she says: "Your efforts shall be rewarded as the seed successfully competing in the markets of the world with all others. And to the berry growers and fruit grower she gives a royal welcome and laughs with pure delight as she points to the fine orchards with trees bending under their loads of luscious fruit of all varieties, all kinds growing to perfection and most delicious. To the lumberman, she says: "You, too, have a vision to see, and a will to lay manhood, and empire builders with soil is virile and fertile." To the truck gardener an abundant return is assured, as Oregon is a natural berry producer, the fruit growing wild in many localities, a chance, and are welcome, as Oregon has large areas of fine timber and virgin forests." For the sportsmen and tourists we have lots of game and fish that will delight the heart of any lover of the great outdoors and afford bushels of fun for the fellow built that way. When it comes to wild and changing scenery, Oregon is a paradise for the nature lover, with her evergreen mountains, whose snow-capped peaks pierce the clouds that surround them like a bridal veil. Her crystal springs, streams and lakes, with many waterfalls, are pure and beautiful, far beyond the efforts of the writer to describe.

I doubt if there is anything in America that will equal Oregon in scenic beauty, and especially along the Columbia highway. Surely nothing can excel it. On one side we have rugged mountains decked with all sorts of colors and blendings, an ever changing panorama of beauty and delight. The waterfalls that leap from the steep cliffs with mad impetuosity and break into foam and sparkle like millions of diamonds in the brilliant sunshine. Truly a royal diadem.

On the other side of the majestic Columbia, which at times and places rivals a silver torrent passing through and yet a part of an ever changing and gorgeous landscape, far across the river are hills and valleys that lend enchantment to the view. The scene as a whole is sublime and inspiring. It seems so fresh and direct from the hand of the Great Architect and Divine Painter. Here the Builder of the

Some Highway Views Through Douglas County



universe has surely shown his heart. He has lavished love and beauty and created a masterpiece of art.

Oregon stands out distinctively in the matter of climate, pure water and healthfulness. The state has wet, dry and intermediate zones and everybody is welcome here and invited to take their choice. With the completion of the Pacific highway next year's tourist travel is promising big things, because auto owners can travel cheaper and stop when and where they please than under the old system of rail travel. Then the lateral roads lead to so many inviting spots throughout the state, and travelers can go and come, visiting all the beauty spots, which means that Oregon will get a large increase in population in the next ten years, because when the public comes to know that the state is free from extremes of heat and cold, and that no severe storms are experienced here, many will want homes in this delightful land, and an excellent and inexpensive way to aid the home seekers and tourists to learn more about this state is for each of us to constitute ourselves a committee of one to give them the best information possible about Oregon, and with absolute fairness toward all inquirers and concerning every locality. Let us remember that a smile of welcome, a cordial handshake and courteous treatment makes a strange country seem homelike to the visitor, and he will feel that among such people and in a country where nature has done so much, he can make a real home. Home, that sacred spot where sweet memories cling, and so dear to the heart of all real men and women.

Pure Bred Shorthorns

By C. O. Garrett, Glendale.

The possibilities for the development of the livestock industry in this county have been long overlooked, especially through the exploitation of other lines of agriculture and horticulture, and many good ranches capable of producing live stock on a paying basis have been cut up, divided and platted for other lines of development.

These valley farms in many cases even yet would pay far better if they were once more turned back to that basic part of all agriculture; the keeping of livestock on the farm—thereby returning and preserving the fertility of the land. To prove this statement one has but to visit the many, too many Willamette valley farms that have been raising grain for years with out rotation of crops or any means of restoring the fertility, until the production of these farms has become so low that the ownership has become a liability instead of an asset.

The livestock business has been the means of reclaiming the many abandoned farms of the New England states and has put them back on a paying basis.

The old stock breeding plants in England and Scotland, have been breeding Shorthorn cattle for at least three generations, and yet these places produce just as much as they did one hundred years ago.

The late Wm. R. Nelson, of the Kansas City Star, has a splendid vision of the possibilities of livestock improvement, when in his

first year he established the Shorthorn farms of 1800 acres for the purpose of demonstrating the value of purebred sires when used with grade cattle. At the annual field day demonstration this year there gathered 7,500 people to visit these breeding farms and to witness the wonderful advancement made in the few years since this work started. What is proven in the Shorthorn demonstration should be of value to every land owner in Oregon and Douglas county who has land suitable for raising cattle.

The early history of Douglas county as a cattle country is well known. Her hills and valleys furnished feed throughout almost the entire year, and the mild winters made the conditions ideal for carrying cattle through at small expense.

The first spring grass in Oregon is found on the sunny slopes of Douglas county, and is very nutritious.

The use of silos is a boon to the livestock man. The fine bottom lands of this country, capable of producing up to 75 bushels of corn per acre, (and possibly more) help to solve the question of feed. The heavy yields of oats and vetch to put in silos or as hay in addition to clover and alfalfa make a very desirable ration of feed for carrying stock cattle through the winter and for fattening stock for market.

The question of what kind of cattle to stock the average ranch with naturally arises, and in most cases should be answered by the suggestion of a dual purpose breed that takes care of both the dairy and the beef production.

The greatest advance to be made in the improvement of the livestock situation in Douglas county would be the use of purebred sires on every ranch where a bull is kept at

all. The statement often made that a man cannot afford a purebred sire in his herd is all wrong. He can better afford to borrow the money to buy one than to own a scrub as a gift. While I would not criticize the man who specializes in dairying, that is a business of its own, but my appeal is to the general farm owner who does not dairy as a business, but who does, or should, raise what cattle his place would carry, (with the use of the silo and crop rotation) that he get out of the scrub business and produce cattle that the market wants and a quality that will not dress out 40 to 45 per cent, but 50 to 60 per cent on the block.

The fact that a great many of the range men of Oregon are going out of the cattle business is lamentable, and is because the business has not in late years paid its way. Close observation leads me to suggest the quality of cattle raised has been largely the reason of the heavy loss in the business, but our land is still producing, and taxes must be met and our people must live and get back to a stable business that our country is so well adapted to and be prepared to share in the better times that are sure to come if we build on such a foundation.

If the range men for Oregon will weed out the undesirable stock and keep the best females and start again with good herd sires, then the present slump will only be a stepping stone to success in the future.

There has not been a time in years when such opportunities prevail as the present offers for farmers to restock, and those who have cattle to weed out and start anew.

To the small stock owner who cannot afford a purebred sire, the

club plan whereby a few neighbors go in together and buy a better sire than one or two could afford.

In conclusion I want to say that I can see no better way to add to the economical wealth and prosperity of Douglas county than by renewing our faith in its soil, its climate, its natural fitness for the production of better livestock and prosperous homes for a contented people.

Poultry

Owing to the winter conditions Douglas county offers great opportunities to those who desire to engage in poultry or egg production on a commercial scale. The extremely mild climate, with less precipitation than the coast sections of Oregon and Washington, makes this county an ideal poultry center. A number of commercial plants in the county have demonstrated the fact that eggs can be produced in this county cheaper than in any other section of the northwest. The industry is growing very rapidly. Accurate cost accounts have been kept by a number of the best poultrymen in the county which show that a net profit of from \$2 to \$3 can be made from each hen kept under proper conditions. The average commercial unit is 1000 hens. The absence of freezing weather makes it possible to have green feed the year round which adds materially to the health of the chickens and reduces the cost of egg production. The combining of poultry raising with that of fruit can be done to the advantage of both.

There are two commercial hatch-

eries in the county—one at Roseburg and the other one near Drain, so that the matter of getting started in the poultry business in this county is comparatively easy.

Cherries

The demand for first class cherries is never fully met. This county is peculiarly adapted to the successful growing of all varieties of cherries.

It is a well known fact that the finest cherries in the world are grown in Oregon. The climatic conditions here also assure the earliest cherries of any place in the northwest, which is of great benefit to the growers in securing the top market price for the first of their picking.

The Royal Anne is especially adapted for canning purposes and is always in great demand at good prices. The Bing is the favorite shipping cherry and grows to an enormous size. When ripe it is almost black and compares favorably in size with a plum. The Lambert is also a good shipping cherry, but not so large as the Bing. Both varieties sell readily in the city markets.

The sour cherries are much smaller in size and are used chiefly by canneries for making preserves, etc., and while they do not bring as high a price as the other varieties, yet they are very profitable.

The cherry orchard does not require the attention that many other orchards do; very little spraying or pruning being necessary and little cultivation is required after the trees come into bearing.

Some of the largest trees of the

sweet varieties of cherries produce as high as 1000 pounds of fruit each year, but the average production of the grown tree is about 500 pounds.

Four full express cars of cherries were shipped from this county to eastern markets in 1924. This does not include the less carload shipments made to nearby cities and towns.

Grapes

Grapes have been grown in Douglas county, which means in the Umpqua valley, for a great many years with success. The American varieties of all-pinks such as the Concord, Worden, Niagara and Delaware do well, and are almost sure to ripen during the warm, dry weather.

The European varieties, by which are meant all grapes which are sold and do not slip their skins, the Flame Tokay, Muscat and Malaga for instance, are being raised commercially to a limited extent. There are vineyards in Garden Valley, Brockway and Myrtle Creek. These grapes ship well and go by express to any part of the United States in perfect condition.

Many of the hill soils of Douglas county are well adapted to grape growing. Grapes will grow on almost any soil but will only be profitable on a good soil depth. In California vineyards are successful in the valleys. With us, however, hillside vineyards are safer because of spring and fall frosts which sometimes affect valley vineyards but seldom trouble those on the hills.

HOP PRODUCTION (U. S. Census)

Year	Acres	Yield (Pounds)
1870		800
1880	49	74,234
1889	253	272,300
1909	82	50,500
1919	11	6,000

Values of Farm Products, 1919, and Livestock, 1920.

Crops Produced	Value	Total Value
Cereals	\$1,028,721	
Fruits and Nuts	1,616,605	
Hay and Forage	1,068,444	
Vegetables	283,296	
Other Grains and Seeds	9,344	
All other crops	3,005	
		\$3,959,415

Income From Sales of Farm Products (U. S. Census) 1919

Product	Income	Per Cent of Total Income
Fruits and Nuts	\$1,215,000	30.7
Cereals	780,000	19.6
Livestock and Meats	650,000	16.3
Dairy Products	335,000	8.4
Wool & Mohair	260,000	6.5
Poultry Products	178,214	4.4
Hay and Forage	95,000	2.3
Vegetables (Potatoes Inc.)	65,000	1.6
Totals	\$3,605,314	99.1

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