

## ROOM FOR SETTLERS.

Arthur White who has been engaged all summer in surveying Uncle Sam's lands in the vicinity of Moses and Grand Coulees, returned yesterday. He says that northwest of Moses Coulee there are three or four townships of good agricultural land, though water is scarce. Several living springs, however, were found there by his party. The country is composed of light, rolling hills, covered with a luxuriant growth of bunch grass, with occasional patches of rye grass and white sage. West of the Coulees, distant four or five miles, there is an abundance of timber suitable for log houses, fire wood and rails; while further off, on the Columbia, there is timber suitable for lumber. The banks of the Columbia are generally high, rocky and precipitous, with only a few places suitable for roads to the river. North-west of the north end of the Grand Coulee there is an extensive region suitable for grazing purposes, but it is too rocky and spotted for farming purposes. The rocks are granitic and basaltic in their formation. There is a good country for wheat raising around Wild Goose Bill's location which is between Camp Spokane on the east, and the Grand Coulee on the west. There is plenty of scrub pine in that region, with occasional bodies of fir, and patches of cottonwood. The pine and cottonwood make good fuel and the fir can be converted into lumber and rails. There are quite a number of settlers on Wilson Creek and in the vicinity of Wild Goose Bill's. This region is about 120 miles north of Walla Walla, and has an altitude of over 2,000 feet above the sea. Frosts are frequent, particularly in the valleys on the bottom lands. Mr. White is of the opinion that it is a pretty good country to settle in, though its remoteness from railroads and markets, make it at present a stock raising and not an agricultural country.—*Walla Walla Union.*

## BUSINESS IN THE PACIFIC NORTH-WEST.

In response to numerous inquiries from abroad in regard to the times, we will say, that business of all kinds in all sections of this country was never better than at the present. We have a good season, and a good market for our surplus products.

The demand for beef among the logging and railroad camps has made it a profitable season for our stock raisers. The hop growers with a prospect of a good crop and fair prices, have met with a reward for their labor, which has not always been their lot.

The lumbering business has not for a long time been as active as it is at present. Nearly all the saw mills are running on full time, and have more orders than they can fill. Lumber is being shipped to all quarters of the globe. San Francisco, Chili and Australia, however, being among our best markets. The increased demand for lumber has increased the demand and price for logs beyond what it has been for years. Good wages are paid and all who wish it can find employment.

The fisheries this year have been very remunerative. There has been a ready market for all the fish and help sufficient to run some of the canneries has not been obtainable.

Railroad building in its various branches, is giving employment to a great number of men, who receive high wages and are earning enormous sums of money.

Not only does this state of things exist in our immediate vicinity, but from other sections of the Pacific coast comes the cry of plenty of work and no one to do it.

In British Columbia laborers are scarce and not enough can be found to supply the demand. On the C. P. R. the contractors find it difficult to procure enough men to fulfill their contracts. It is not too much to say that if 10,000 men, farmers, mechanics and laborers of all kind were distributed over Oregon, W. T. and B. C.; that they could find remunerative employment. This state of things is not of a temporary character either.

This country has yet scarcely begun the work of development. Railroads now in the course of construction and projected lines that are sure to be built will for a long time to come give employment to an army of men.

Farms, timber land and homes in towns are eagerly sought for. Homesteads in the immediate vicinity of the towns could be procured quite readily a little more than a year ago, but now nearly every quarter section is taken for miles around, but still there is land enough left for all who desire it.

## THE TIMBER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

That section of British Columbia west of the Cascades and including Vancouver and Queen Charlotte Islands is, according to Professor Macoun, covered with, probably, one of the finest forests in the world. Chief amongst the trees is the Douglas fir, and which is used throughout the country for building purposes, and for export in the form of deals and spars.

White cedar is another giant, and in the valley of the Fraser and up the coast attains to an immense size. The Indians use this wood altogether in the construction of their houses, and in building those large canoes which are the wonder of the eastern people.

The other trees are a species of yew, another of alder, two species of fir, two species of pine, two species of maple; hemlock spruce is a common tree on the mainland, while a species of oak is abundant on the island, but has not yet been detected on the continent. An evergreen tree is quite common along the coast of the island, and both summer and winter, its foliage contrasts finely with that of the somber hued Douglas fir.

In the second, or arid district, a pine takes the place of the Douglas fir on the coast, and is a very valuable tree, growing to a large size; with clean trunk, and resembling the red pine of Ontario very much. The tops of the lower mountains and the sides of the higher ones support a heavy growth of Douglas fir, but it is far from being the beautiful tree of the coast.

The Island of Vancouver is about 300 miles in length, with an average breadth of about 60, and probably contains about 20,000 square miles. The soil is good, but the surface is so much broken by rock that it is altogether impossible to tell the amount of good arable land on the island. There is no doubt the day will come when Vancouver will support a large population—partly agricultural, and partly engaged in mining, lumbering and fishing.

Burrard Inlet is situated on the Gulf of Georgia, a few miles west from New Westminster. It is nine miles long—deep and safe. It is the port from which the lumber trade is chiefly carried on. It is very easy of access to vessels of any size or class, and convenient depth of water for anchorage may be found in almost every part of it.