

largest in the county, has a capacity of 40,000 feet per day, and runs constantly. Quarries are in the vicinity where paving stones are taken out. At Columbia City, two miles below St. Helens, is another saw mill. In the country tributary to this place are extensive bodies of excellent iron ore and large coal deposits, which will, no doubt, be utilized at no distant day. Enterprise, ten miles further down the Columbia, is the shipping point for a saw mill situated several miles back from the river. Many fine farms are located in the vicinity. At Rainier is a mill cutting 25,000 feet per day. There is also a small ship yard, a barrel factory and a cannery, where salmon, smelt, salmon trout and caviar are prepared for market. In Beaver Valley there are two mills, and much lumber, shingles, cordwood and charcoal are sent out and shipped at Cedar Landing. There is a large settlement in the valley and plenty of room for others. Near Bradbury, twelve miles below Rainier, there is some good land along the river. Logging is the principal business. In the Clatskanie Valley are three saw mills. In the valley, and in the vicinity of Marshland and Wood's Landing, is some of the best farming land in the county. There is room for more settlers in that region. Across the mountains from Wood's Landing to Riverside, in Nehalem Valley, it is fifteen miles. Near this point there is a saw mill. Up the valley twelve miles is the town of Pittsburg, having both a saw and grist mill. Further up is the town of Vernonia, having a saw mill and sash factory. In the valley is much good land open to settlement, enough to give homes to 5,000 people. Much valuable land there has just been thrown open to settlement by the forfeiture of the Oregon Central land grant. The water power is excellent, large coal deposits have been discovered, and splendid timber covers both the valley and the surrounding mountains. The proposed railroad from Forest Grove to Astoria will pass through the valley, and thus bring it into free communication with the remainder of the State. The resources of Columbia County are almost entirely undeveloped, and great inducements are offered to settlers who can utilize them. Special attention is called to its advantages for dairying.

#### The Coast Region.

THAT portion of Oregon known as the "Coast Region" is a comparatively narrow strip, from twenty to thirty miles wide, lying between the summit of the Coast Range and the Pacific Ocean. It embraces the counties of Clatsop, Tillamook, Coos and Curry, and portions of Benton, Lane and Douglas, and has so many features peculiar to itself as to warrant a separate classification. It is densely covered with a giant growth of fir, cedar, spruce, hemlock and other valuable timber trees, which prevail on the uplands, and many kinds of desirable hardwoods, such as maple, alder, laurel, etc., along the courses of the numerous streams. The whole country is one vast forest, stretching out continuously from the Columbia River to the California line, except where great tracts have been swept by forest fires, as is notably the case in Benton County, or where strips of prairie land interpose, as in Tillamook

The rainfall of this region in summer time is greater than in the Willamette Valley, while in winter the thermometer seldom falls below the freezing point. The vine maple bottoms, as the low lands along the streams are generally called, are the most desirable, and will prove themselves the poor men's homes of the future. To render them such work is necessary, either by the settler himself, as is generally the case, or by others whom he pays for their labor. Much of these lands have enough cottonwood to pay for their clearing, since barrel staves of that wood are in demand. The fir will make fence rails and shakes for houses and barns, the larger vine maples make durable posts, and the elders and quaking aspens can be slashed for burning. Next comes the fire, leaving the ashes to fertilize the soil, and up comes the shamrock, which is a natural growth and a great element of wealth. This tiny white clover is everywhere along the bottoms, and is the best butter food known. The streams are numerous, while springs of pure water burst from the ground in every gulch and at frequent intervals along the hillsides. Snow is unknown except on the hills, and grass and clover are perpetually fresh and green. As a dairy region this certainly has no superior in the world, while the incidental raising of beef cattle and hogs for market can be made extremely profitable. The indigenous ferns and brakes are a pest to the farmer. On the prairies, and where timber has been sufficiently cut or burned to give them a chance, they spring up thickly and grow to giant proportions, sometimes higher than a man's head. They can be subdued and kept down, and are to be preferred to burrs, thistles and many similar pests of older agricultural regions. Under them, especially in the large tracts which have been burned over in past years by forest fires, the wild pea vine grows, a very nutritious food for cattle.

It is not only the bottom lands, however, which are desirable or may be rendered suitable for agriculture. There is much hill land possessing a fertile soil. It has been indiscriminately asserted that the timbered land is not fertile and is not worth the cost of clearing, though how this can be maintained in the face of the hundreds of good farms that have been carved out of the forest it is difficult to tell. There is, to be sure, much hill and mountain land which is gravelly. This is true of the higher and steeper ridges of the Coast Range, but there are also many thousand acres of the most productive land now covered densely with timber. In fact, the very luxuriance of its growth of trees, vines and shrubs is proof of the richness of the soil. There are rolling hills which have a deep soil, producing the finest fruits, vegetables and grain, including corn, and there are extensive plateaus, with a deep, rich soil. In the main the forests are dense. To one unaccustomed to Oregon timber the trees seem formidable. There are giant firs and spruces, from eight to fourteen feet through, with huge roots and abutments reaching up twenty feet from the ground, and hemlocks standing in thick array, straddling old rotten logs or emerging from huge stumps, while an infinitude of salmon berry and salal and huckle berry bushes cover