

of its dense growth of trees and shrubs, the flats, hills and bottoms become extremely valuable for agriculture and grazing. The soil is good; no other could support the dense natural growth upon it. It is generally a dark mould, derived from the decomposition of vegetable matter, such as leaves, roots, fallen trees, which has been going on for ages, mingled in the valleys with the deposits brought down from the mountains in seasons of high water. A rich, red loam is frequently met with, and there are found some gravelly and sterile tracts, also various colored and sticky clays. The best soil often extends to the very top of high hills. Wheat, oats, barley, corn, flax, vegetables, etc., produce in abundance. Corn is especially fine, presenting a strong contrast with the Willamette Valley, where corn is not a successful cereal. Umpqua Valley shares with the Rogue River region the honor of producing the finest quality and greatest abundance of fruit in Oregon. Apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches, apricots and grapes grow in profusion. In the line of small fruits, especially strawberries, Douglas rules the Portland market. The first settlers found plums, raspberries, etc., growing wild in the greatest luxuriance, and time has shown how well the soil and climate that sustained them were adapted to the cultivated varieties.

Formerly the Umpqua was a great stock country, but gradually its pastures have disappeared before the plow, and cattle have given way to grain; still, the stock interests are considerable. Durham and Devon cattle are the prevailing breeds, though a number of pure and half blood Jerseys are to be found. Cattle thrive best when fed in the winter season, though they can pick their own living in the foothill ranges. On the bottom lands the excellent winter pasturage, at a season when stock on the Atlantic Coast are being fed on hay, renders the Umpqua region especially adapted to dairying. The blood of draught horses has been undergoing a process of improvement for a number of years by breeding to imported Percherons. The sheep and wool of the Umpqua are the most celebrated in Oregon, and Umpqua fleeces command the market in San Francisco. Special prominence has been given to merinos, and upon these the reputation of Umpqua wool has been made. Of late years a number of flocks of long-wool sheep, especially cotswold, have been introduced with good success.

The transportation facilities consist of the O. & C. Railroad, from Portland to the south line of the State, which traverses the centre of the county from north to south, passing through the most populous portion. The route to the sea by the way of Gardiner, at the mouth of the Umpqua, involves hauling by wagon to Scottsburg and transferring to a river steamer at that point. A project of much importance is the construction of a railroad from Roseburg to Coos Bay, passing, by way of the Coquille, through the heart of the vast timber and coal regions. As this would be a means of developing both of those valuable resources, and giving the Umpqua region easy access to a good harbor for deep water vessels, it would be of incalculable benefit to the producers of the valley. A company has been organized for this purpose,

and the prospect of its successful completion within a few years is bright.

The leading valleys, generally known by the name of the stream flowing through them, are North Umpqua, South Umpqua, Myrtle Creek, Cow Creek, Looking Glass, Ten Mile, Camas, Flournoy, Happy, Missouri Bottom, Cole's, French Settlement, Calapocia Creek, Elk Creek, Garden, Deer Creek and Yoncalla. East of Roseburg is a vast stretch of country unsettled, unsurveyed and practically unexplored. It is extremely mountainous, running up into the high peaks of the Cascades, but there is much excellent timber, and no doubt many good locations for settlement exist there. The Smith River country, lying north and west of Drain, is, perhaps, the best part of the unsettled portion of the county. The east fork for several miles flows through a beautiful, level plain, from one-half to two miles wide on either side of the stream. Below the forks there is also much valley land, and the stream has numerous tributaries on which is much good bottom land. In the older settlements land may be purchased at almost any price ranging from \$5 to \$50 per acre, according to location, quality and character of improvements.

The county seat is Roseburg, situated on the South Umpqua, at the junction of Deer Creek. The United States Land Office for Southern Oregon is located at that point. Roseburg contains a population of about 1,100, and has two flouring mills, a foundry, brewery, numerous stores, several large warehouses and an engine round house, being the end of a division on the railroad. It is a prosperous business town. South of Roseburg, on the railroad, are the villages of Myrtle Creek, with a grist and planing mill; Riddle, with a saw mill, and Glendale. On the old stage road is Canyonville, containing two saw mills and two grist mills. On the line of the road north of Roseburg are several flourishing towns. Oakland has a flouring mill and an academy, and is the shipping point of a large agricultural region. Drain, from which stages run to Scottsburg and Gardiner, is a good business and shipping point, and has two saw mills and a flouring mill. Yoncalla is a shipping station and has a saw mill. Wilbur contains the Umpqua Academy. Numerous other small business points and post offices are located in the various valleys. See "Coast Region" for the western end of the county.

JACKSON COUNTY.

Jackson County lies in the extreme southern end of Oregon, bordering on the California line, and is hemmed in between the Cascade Mountains on the east and those of the Coast Range on the west, the Rogue River Mountains on the north and the Siskiyou on the south, all of which occupy a portion of the 2,800 square miles embraced within its territory. Surrounded by these mountain ranges is the thickly settled portion of the county—the beautiful Rogue River Valley. The valley proper is about forty miles long by twenty wide, though sometimes the name is made to embrace the whole watershed of that turbulent stream. The mountains are heavily timbered