

Indian jargon, the "chinook," or "good wind," blowing from the southeast, by which like magic the snow disappears in a remarkably short time.

It is a well known fact that snow is a wonderful protector of fruit buds, and when grain is protected by snow, as it nearly always is here, the certainty of a large yield is almost assured. A remarkable tendency of the soil to retain moisture, and the coolness of the atmosphere, explains the phenomena of the large crop yields without heavy rainfall in summer. A fall of two or three feet of snow occurs in January or February, settling to the depth of one foot, when the first sleighing is fully enjoyed by the energetic mountaineers. Roads are nearly always of the best, winter or summer. These broad plateaus, rolling hills and ranges of mountains are nearly two thousand feet above sea level.

The summers are delightfully cool, with the exception of a few days, when the thermometer reaches ninety degrees in the shade, followed by cool nights, when two or three blankets are required, rendering sleep really "tired nature's restorer," and fires not uncomfortable. A careful observer will notice that almost invariably a mist or fog follows frost in early morning, so that slight harm results to fruit buds. The tendency of almost everything to overbear is sometimes corrected in this way, part being destroyed.

The soil freezes very little under the warm coat of snow, and plowing is often continued almost up to the first of January, commencing again the first week in March. Potatoes left in the ground often "volunteer," and yield fifteen pounds to the hill. Potatoes under good cultivation sometimes weigh four pounds; stock beets, twelve; rutabagas, thirty; carrots, ten; cabbages, thirty pounds (have heard a well authenticated account of one weighing ninety, but I will not vouch for the story). Pieplant, melons, beans, peas, celery, cauliflower, cucumbers, artichokes, asparagus, pumpkins, squash, jump beans and sweet herbs do remarkably well on upland. Corn is grown for home use—meal and roasting ears. Wheat, barley and oats are the principal cereals.

Wheat not unfrequently yields fifty bushels to the acre; barley, seventy-five; oats, eighty. Of course these crops must be given the very best cultivation, and the season favorable, to insure such large yields. Rye, as far as tried, yields well, but is hard to eradicate. Hay can be grown profitably. Flax is a natural production. Beet sugar making will be engaged in

when the proper machinery for manufacturing the product can be procured reasonably.

Methods of farming are identical with those in the East. Prices of products very little higher. Living is as cheap, or cheaper, than in the East, from the fact of the farmers' ability to produce such heavy crops of vegetables, fruits, etc. The lumber interests will for many years employ much machinery and many men, and pay well.

Cattle raising can be engaged in here more profitably than in Colorado, Montana or Nebraska, and the abundant and nutritious bunch grass gives a nurture from which cattle are taken in good condition to the slaughtering pen. Cattle and horses live on bunch grass in the winter, but it is a cruel practice and less often occurs. Stock should be fed about six weeks. Wealthy farmers are importing fine stock of all kinds, and are not greatly behind Eastern enthusiasts in that respect. Beef cattle sell on foot for \$30.00 to \$40.00 per head; milk cows, \$30.00 to \$35.00; a good team, about \$200.00. Farmers with small means use cayuses, the native Indian pony, weighing from three hundred to eight hundred pounds each, and ranging in price from \$5.00 to \$30.00.

Of cultivated fruit, the apple, pear, quince, prune, cherry, plum and grape do best. Of berries, strawberries are raised by the bushel. I have seen one—a James Vick—measure six inches in circumference. Gooseberries, raspberries, currants and blackberries could not bear better. I think high-bush huckleberries and blueberries can be raised. Cranberries are a success all along the coast, when the soil can be flooded. The wild red, white yellow and black currant bear abundantly near streams. The sarvice, or Juneberry, is to be found everywhere and is much used. Choke cherries and thimbleberries (a species of raspberry), and low-bush blackberries bear abundantly. Wild gooseberries are abundant, but too small to warrant the time to pick and prepare for use, when in two seasons, very large cultivated ones can be raised in gardens. The only kind of nuts are hazelnuts, which are to be found in some localities.

There is much desirable land open to settlement under the land laws of the government, much that can be purchased at a nominal price from the railroad company, whose office is at Sprague, and much that can be bought from present holders at from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per acre.