

ALBANY AND LINN COUNTY.

AMONG the growing towns of Oregon, none occupy a more prominent position than Albany, the chief city of Linn county. Its selection by the Oregon Pacific as its point of junction with the Oregon & California, and the site for large round houses, which are in construction, has drawn much attention to its advantages as a business point. This distinction has not fallen upon Albany unearned, but is the result of the enterprising spirit of its citizens, who subscribed liberally to induce the Oregon Pacific to bridge the Willamette at that point and make the city its chief center of traffic on the east side of the river. This same spirit of enterprise is shown in other directions, and is bearing fruit in the prosperity and rapid growth of the community. The Oregon Pacific is now being operated fifteen miles east of Albany, and is under contract for construction beyond the summit of the Cascades. Another year will see it as far east as Snake river, and before a second shall roll around, it will meet, at Boise City, another road from the East, making one more transcontinental route. Albany will then be the place where freight and passengers by this new line will connect with lines reaching points both north and south, and will, of necessity, become of great importance in the transportation system of the coast. The city now has a population of three thousand, which will, by the time the road is completed, have increased fully twenty-five per cent.

Albany is well built up with substantial business structures, and many neat, and even handsome, residences. The

county buildings are brick structures, and cost about \$50,000.00. Business in all its branches is well represented, and is increasing yearly in volume. One of the best water powers in the West, the Santiam river, supplies an abundance of power for manufacturing, which is already utilized by a number of industries, chief among which is the large Red Crown Mills of Isom, Lanning & Co., a complete roller mill, manufacturing standard shipping brands of flour. As a manufacturing point, Albany possesses many advantages of location, because of its situation at the junction of two great railroad lines. It will have a direct outlet by rail to Eastern Oregon and beyond, to all points south and north, and to the two ocean shipping ports of Yaquina and Portland. Within easy reach are vast forests of fir and cedar, and groves of alder, oak, maple and cottonwood. Thousands of sheep are at hand to supply wool of the finest grade, while cereal, fruit and vegetable products are obtainable in unlimited quantities. From the very nature of things, Albany must become an important manufacturing and business community.

On pages 809 and 810 are presented engravings of several of the business and public structures of the city, including the school house and new bank building. These are evidences of business prosperity and enlightened enterprise, which speak volumes for the city and its people.

A glance at the surrounding and tributary country will give a good idea of the city's position. Much of the region