

very uniform climate, as, no matter how well fed the sheep might be, cold winter weather caused the filament of wool grown at that season of the year to be of less diameter than that grown in summer." It is the general effect, then, of the uniform and mild climate of Western Oregon, in its influence on both pasturage and wool, that underlies the fact that the wool product of Western Oregon and a few of the coast counties of Northern California rates in the market from three to five cents per pound higher than that produced on the South Pacific coast and interior east of the Cascade and Sierra Nevada ranges.

#### THE OKANOGAN COUNTRY.

TWO years ago that portion of Washington formerly included in the Moses Indian reservation was thrown open to occupation. It lies north and west of the Columbia river and adjacent to the British Columbia line, extending one hundred miles from east to west and a little less than that from north to south, in which direction, through its center, runs the Okanogan river, emptying into the Columbia. The Methow is another stream, though of less size, flowing south to the Columbia farther to the westward. Into this region a great tide of immigration is pouring, composed of miners, stockmen and farmers. Some of the richest ledges of quartz yet discovered on the Pacific coast have been found here, and the report of the quality and great extent of the mineral ground has drawn a great number of prospectors. The mineral zone extends from the Chelan mountains eastward across the Methow to the Conconully range, and the strongest veins yet discovered appear to be on Ruby mountain, though the possibilities of rich discoveries at any point are great. The width of this zone is two to three miles. There are several lodes reported in this district that have a course nearly north and south, and dip east at high angles, varying sixty to eighty degrees below the horizontal plane. These cut through the bedded formation obliquely, at angles varying from thirty to fifty degrees, thus marking them distinctly as true fissure lodes. Some claim that there are contact veins here notwithstanding. Ruby mountain, where these mines are located, is said to be two thousand five hundred to three thousand feet perpendicularly above what is called Ruby City, on Conconully creek. Loop Loop City lies on this mountain proper, and is reached by wagon road from the Okanogan up the Loop Loop, or by road from Conconully.

Adjacent to this town of Loop Loop are the leading mines of which so much is said, and which are drawing the attention of capitalists in many of our

principal cities in states and territories. Many of these locations are seen from Loop Loop, and all are in close proximity. Among them, noted for richness and quantity of ore as far as developed, are the First Thought. This mine shows three strong ledges, with over thirty feet of ore matter in the middle shaft. Three shafts have been sunk, or are in the process of sinking, and all show fine ore. While ore has reached eight hundred ounces, the average went one hundred and sixty-five ounces. This mine is attracting much attention and is being worked night and day. The Arlington is further south, but on this mother lode. This mine is among the best and most valuable in the camp, and belongs to capitalists of Portland. It is being worked night and day. It is said to be nearly five thousand feet above the sea level. The Pomeroy joins the Arlington. Between the Arlington and the First Thought there are a number of mines. The Fourth of July is one of them, and has a very large body of rich ore. It is predicted that it will be among the leading mines. The Emperor, Key Stone, Monitor, Hecla, Missing Link, Buckeyes, Arizona, Second Thought, Ruby, Fairview and Poor-man are other promising locations. The Ruby is a very large ledge, and will prove a valuable property. The Wooloomooloo is a very rich prospect, lying east of the Arlington. Some of these mines have not been developed enough to know what there is in them, but no mine that has shown an ore body on the surface has failed to liberally respond to the work done in development. A little further north are the Peacock, Idaho, War Eagle and others, all in the Loop Loop camp, and they are claimed to be on the mother lode. These mines are reputed by mining men and experts to be richer at present development than any mines of which there is any record.

Timber and water being abundant, the facilities for working these mines are all that could be desired. It is said that the Consolidated Arlington and Pomeroy will put their mining works on the Loop Loop, near the city, where the ore can be easily and cheaply reduced, and on a road by which the product can be hauled by the shortest route to the Okanogan river, Ellensburg or Pasco steamboat, or to the railroad when built. Thus ores on the mountain may be worked at the least expense there and the product shipped by the nearest and most feasible route. On the east side of the Conconully creek, opposite Ruby City, is the Anaconda mine. It has a high elevation. The ore is rich, and if it continues in richness as it now stands, it will prove one of the most valuable mines in the district.

North from Loop Loop is Mineral hill. Along the route the hills and mountains are scarred with prospect holes for future development. Mineral hill