

parents to Salem, where he attended the Willamette University. In 1876 he crossed the mountains and located in Prineville, where he has since resided, and though in a democratic county, has served as sheriff two years and is now its representative in the legislature.

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ALBANY, OREGON.

DURING the year just closed the city of Albany has shown remarkable progress and vitality, and gives indications of a future progress highly gratifying to its intelligent and enterprising citizens. The tax roll shows a marked increase over the value of property the previous year. The total valuation is \$1,322,546.00, divided into \$776,881.00 real estate and \$545,665.00 personal property. Upon this there are indebtedness and exemptions to the amount of \$290,000.00, leaving a net taxable value of \$1,031,806.00 within the limits of the city, which will yield a revenue of \$4,501.06. The estimated population, based upon the tax roll, is three thousand one hundred and fifty, not including recent arrivals and temporary residents. The prosperity of Albany is based upon the excellence of the large area of tributary agricultural land, upon its large and cheaply utilized water power, and upon its unrivaled transportation facilities, to which are added valuable coal and gold and silver mines now being developed.

Linn county is one of the oldest settled portions of the celebrated Willamette valley, and has always been noted for its excellent crops and fine farms. Its products are largely marketed through Albany, and almost the entire county is tributary to that city, as, also, is a large area of fertile land lying on the west side of the Willamette river. There is much land but partially improved lying between the city and the mountains, which can be purchased at extremely low rates, and in the foothills both government and railroad lands are open to settlement. Improved lands may also be found by those who have money to invest in that class of property in preference to buying cheaper land and making the improvements themselves. The agricultural regions are gradually filling up, and yearly a greater area of land is put into productive condition. Many orchards are being set out, and dairying is largely on the increase, both of these forms of agricultural industry being profitable in this region. Albany feels the effect of this increase in population, production and values in the surrounding country, and its citizens are industriously engaged in

the work of providing additional facilities for marketing the products and transacting the business.

The Santiam canal, an artificial waterway from the Santiam river to Albany, supplies the power for manufacturing purposes. The canal is twenty feet wide, with a fall of four feet to the mile, and carries a body of water three feet deep, amounting to twenty thousand running feet per minute. The supply of water can be easily and cheaply doubled whenever the growth of manufacturing demands it. Shipping facilities are at hand superior to those possessed by any other city in the valley, and arrangements are being made for others. On the Willamette river steamers of the O. R. & N. Co. ply between the city and Portland, while those of the Oregon Pacific bring freight from up and down the stream to the railroad at Albany. The main line of the Southern Pacific's Oregon system, connecting Portland and San Francisco, passes through the city, and from this point a branch runs to Lebanon, a thriving town to the eastward. The Oregon Pacific crosses the Willamette at this point by means of a fine bridge, giving Albany access to the ocean at Yaquina bay. This road is completed sixty miles east of the city, and will be finished across the Cascades by the end of another year, making connection with an overland road in the vicinity of Snake river, and placing Albany on another transcontinental system. A company has been organized in Astoria to build a road from that city into the Willamette valley, and the citizens of Albany have incorporated a company to cooperate with this movement and secure for their city the terminus of the Astoria line. Construction has already been commenced on the line south from Astoria. When this project is carried to successful completion Albany will have a third seaport from which to ship her products.

From whatever point the city is viewed, the future of Albany seems bright with promise. Anticipations of rapid growth are not based upon theory merely, but upon the continued operation of causes already at work, whose effects are now being felt, and which must have a steadily increasing influence upon the welfare of the city. No interior town in the entire northwest offers greater promise than does this thriving city of the Willamette.

McMINNVILLE'S PROGRESS.

ATENTION has been frequently called in the columns of THE WEST SHORE to the evidences of prosperity exhibited in McMinnville and the surrounding country. Yamhill county has always been acknowledged as the cream of the Willamette valley,