

REGHONISH COUNTY MINERALS.—The Sultan river mines, by present routes of travel, are within twenty-five miles of the town of Rhodanish, on Puget sound. In a straight line they are less than twenty miles distant. It would be safe to say that over \$100,000,000 in gold dust has come from these mines. Possibly two or three times that sum has been derived therefrom. Nearly all the mineral wealth of the country is to be found to the eastward of the line of the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern railway as located north and south through the country. That is, this road forms what may be termed the western boundary of the mineral wealth of the country. It is from fifty to sixty miles from the roadway eastward to the summit of the Cascade mountains, which constitutes the eastern boundary of Rhodanish county. As one goes eastward the crops, pine of sandstone and coal become less frequent, but the coal, where found, is of an older formation and better quality. As the coal formations disappear they are replaced by true mineral veins, the various combinations of silver with less valuable metals taking the lead. Since these metals were deposited, the surface of the country has been less disturbed by volcanic agency than any other county on the east side of Puget sound.

LATAH COUNTY, IDAHO.—Moscow, the county seat of Latah, has the territorial university, eight church buildings of the various denominations, a \$20,000.00 court house, and a \$12,000.00 school house. Latah county has fifty-eight school districts and fifty-eight school houses. There are upwards of two thousand scholars enrolled. There are one thousand three hundred and fifty boys and seven hundred girls. It has twenty-five townships, some of which are mountain and valley land. It has ten villages. Moscow is the largest, having the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company's railroad terminus, and Genesee has the Northern Pacific branch terminus. Moscow is an independent school district and an incorporated town and is the county seat. Compulsory education is the law. Latah county has a population of about ten thousand. It has about \$2,300,000.00 of real and personal property. It is purely an agricultural county, with fine stock raising. The average yield of wheat per acre is forty bushels. The general productions are wheat, oats, barley, flax, vegetables, peaches, pears, plums, apples and small fruits. Winter lasts from four to six weeks; long spring and fall, with cool nights. There is pure mountain water in abundance.

WHIDBY ISLAND.—On Whidby island, in Puget sound, there are about six thousand acres of tide and peat marshes, not one-half of which is under cultivation. To accurately state the amount of land under cultivation would be a hard task. It is easier to estimate the amount of grain and produce raised. The yearly average is about one hundred thousand bushels of wheat, oats and barley, about fifty thousand bushels of potatoes, and probably five thousand tons of hay for sale, besides what is fed on the farms, and as all the farmers are stock raisers, the stock consisting mostly of horses, cattle and sheep, it takes a vast amount of feed to carry them through the winter. There is a great deal of excellent unimproved farming land, but it belongs to large land holders or is held for speculation by non-residents. It consists largely of alder and spruce bottoms and peat marshes. There are thousands of acres of land that if slashed would be valuable for sheep pasturage. There is no government land to be had.

THE BRENTS COUNTRY, WASHINGTON.—West of Davenport a few miles is a stock men's paradise; that is, scrub land twelve miles wide and twenty miles long, extending southward from

the Columbia river. On the west side of it is the Rocky canyon, and on the edge of the prairie adjoining are Brown's buttes, here is the great natural mounds covered with bunch grass. Here is the eastern edge of the Brents country. The Columbia river forms its northern boundary, the Grand Coulee its western, and its southern is the scrub lands of Crab and Wilson creeks, about the middle of township twenty-four. It comprises the north-western part of Lincoln county and the northeastern part of Douglas. There are over twelve hundred square miles of land, chiefly prairie. The general slope is southward, away from the river. There are no streams of importance flowing north, from Rocky canyon to the Grand Coulee, a distance of more than forty miles. So near is the divide to the river northeast of Sherman, that a tunnel two or three miles long could be so made as to tap the river and flood the country below, for the country below is lower than the river.—*Wilbur Register.*

BAKER CITY IMPROVEMENTS.—The material progress made by Baker City during the past year shows no signs of abatement. The most recent enterprises which have been undertaken are the construction of a fine hotel that is to cost about \$40,000.00, and a system of street railways. The hotel is being erected by Warshauer brothers, who recently purchased a tract one hundred feet square on the north side of the Arlington block, and who expect to have the hotel open for the accommodation of the public by the 1st of January next. Mr. Kennedy, who owns the Arlington block, will also erect a handsome four-story hotel on that ground, as previously contemplated by him before the other project was started. A franchise for a street railway has been granted by the city council, and it is expected that the system will be constructed and in operation within four months. These evidences of enterprise and growth are gratifying to those who know what magnificent resources the city possesses, and will do much to recommend it to the favorable consideration of those who are seeking a location for business or a place to invest their means in property or industries.

GOVERNMENT LAND IN OREGON.—The following is the number of acres of government land that remains unclaimed in each county of Oregon:

Benton	68,800
Clackamas	143,000
Clatsop	253,000
Columbia	167,000
Cook	325,000
Curry	175,000
Douglas	300,000
Jackson	175,000
Josephine	145,000
Lane	300,000
Linn	448,000
Marion	220,000
Multnomah	28,000
Polk	54,000
Tillamook	693,000
Washington	49,000
Yamhill	53,000
Total	3,461,800

RAILROADS ACROSS THE CASCADES.—A reconnaissance of the country between Goldendale and Pasco discloses the fact that there is no engineering difficulty in the way of the construction of the proposed line between those two points. No grade higher than one hundred feet to the mile will be necessary, and there will be but little rock work. An effort is being made to consolidate the Pasco, Goldendale, Vancouver & Portland with this road, as both companies have the same object