

BIG IRRIGATION SCHEME.

A COMPANY has been organized by several members of the board of directors of the Northern Pacific, Charles A. Gregory, William J. Bryson and G. A. Young, of Chicago, and Walter N. Granger, S. D. McIntyre and Albert Kleinschmidt, of Helena, to carry out an immense irrigation project. The company has purchased more than a million acres of Northern Pacific land in Washington and Montana, which it proposes to supply with irrigating ditches and sell to settlers. Several parties of engineers are in the field, under the direction of J. D. McIntyre, irrigation engineer of Montana, who originated the scheme. The first fields of operation will be the Yakima valley, in Washington, and the Gallatin valley, in Montana. The plan contemplates a most extensive system of irrigating canals, supplied in a large measure from storage reservoirs. It is only by such combinations of capital that irrigation projects can be carried out on a large scale and the millions of acres of land now too dry for cultivation be rendered productive. When the

land has been brought under ditch, the poorer settlers can purchase at a low rate, securing a perpetual contract for a water supply at a fixed rate, which leaves him practically independent and more certain of a bountiful harvest to reward his toil than when he depends upon the clerk of the weather, with whom he has not even a verbal agreement, to water his crops. Farmers are learning to understand this and irrigated lands are looked upon with more favor than formerly.



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OREGON NOTES.

Siuslaw valley lies along both sides of the stream by that name, which is the boundary between Douglas and Lane counties from the ocean many miles inland. A few years ago it was almost unknown, but it is now being rapidly settled up. Three beautiful lakes, Clear, Ten Mile and Five Mile, in that region, are attracting a great deal of attention, and when the railroad from Eugene to the mouth of the Siuslaw is completed will no doubt become favorite resorts. They are close together and could be connected by short canals that would render them continuously navigable by boats and small steamers. There is already talk of building a large summer hotel there. The beautiful scenery and healthful climate would make it one of the most attractive resorts on the coast.

Hops in Polk county are yielding from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds to the acre, which is a remarkable yield for a dry season, and in some hop growing districts would be called a good crop in any season.

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