



ORTING, WASHINGTON

In the rich Puyallup valley, near the confluence of the Carbonado and Puyallup rivers, is situated the promising town of Orting, on the main line of the Northern Pacific railroad, about eighteen miles east of Tacoma. This town, which only sprung into being about two and a half years ago, presents now a very pleasing view, by its many pretty residences, its large and commodious store buildings, its wide and finely-graded streets, and fine boarded sidewalks. This town now numbers a population hovering close upon a thousand, and was incorporated last April. It has become the center of supply of the rich agricultural country that surrounds it. Here may be found a soil that will yield from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds of a very superior grade of hops to the acre. At only a short distance from town, exist vast forests, which contain principally cedar. Extensive coal beds have also been disclosed. From here the Tacoma, Orting & Southeastern railroad starts, and has been built along the banks of the Puyallup river for a distance of nine miles. This line is to be extended this season a further distance of twenty-seven miles, to tap the immense forests and vast coal deposits that there exist.

This town, with its two railroads and great natural resources, has a bright future. Its citizens are doing good work in order to make their town attractive, by improving its streets and sidewalks, and by providing a fine water supply, which is piped from springs that gush out of the hills that are distant about one mile from town, and in erecting a handsome, two-story school house, at a cost of \$4,000, that is capable of accommodating 100 pupils, and in building a neat little church. There is shortly to be built another school house that will accommodate about 200 pupils, and an M. E. church, the lumber for which is now on the ground.

There was erected in Orting last season a saw and planing mill having a capacity of 10,000 feet a day. Additional machinery for this mill is now on its way that will increase its output to 25,000 feet a day. A shingle mill has just been started that possesses a complete set of the most improved machinery with a capacity of making 50,000 a day. This season is expected to be a very prosperous one here. The Northern Pacific railroad will build four miles of additional siding.

It is generally understood that the rich syndicate that owns large land and mineral interests in this vicinity, will erect extensive coal bunkers and coke ovens here this season. Near this town a fine clay has been discovered, and during the coming season a pottery will be erected to make therefrom earthenware and piping. There has also been discovered near here a large body of mineral paint, which is shortly expected to be utilized.

G. HEAVIX.

SILVERTON, OREGON

One of the promising towns of the Willamette valley is Silverton, situated on the line of the Oregonian Railway about eleven miles from Woodburn, which is distant about thirty-five miles from Portland, on the Southern Pacific railroad. This town possesses a population of about 500, and is the center of the rich agricultural country that extends for many miles around it. It is also the supply depot for the cattle ranches and lumber camps that are located in the mountains for a dis-

tance of twenty-five miles from it. To the stranger the town presents a pleasing appearance, with its wide streets, well-boarded sidewalks, and street lamps on the corners of the principal thoroughfares. The citizens are about to erect another school house at a cost of \$10,000. The Methodists have a neat, little church, and the members of the Christian church are about to build a house of worship. The Odd Fellows have a strong lodge and are about to establish a camp, and the Masonic order has a lodge that meets in its own hall. The Silverton Secular Union owns a large hall which is used for all town meetings. Here are two saw and planing mills that are capable of cutting 14,000 feet, and a large flour mill of 250 barrels per day capacity, and a grist mill of fifty barrels per day.

The farm country adjoining Silverton is fairly settled and is very productive, raising large crops of wheat, barley and oats, hops and fruits. The town derives its name from the creek upon which it is situated, and which is capable of furnishing an abundance of water power for factories, at a very little cost. The large flour mill here is driven by water that is flumed from the creek a quarter of a mile distant from the mill.

One of the greatest enterprises ever undertaken in Idaho is that of the bedrock flume on Moore's creek, commencing near Idaho City and extending for miles down the creek. The company that has undertaken this work has a capital of two million dollars. The superintendent of the work has written that he will be west in the spring and put a big force of men at work. In early days, when labor was \$7.00 and \$8.00 a day, and everything else in proportion, much good placer ground was passed over as of no value, besides much of the gold was lost by the primitive methods then employed. The object of the bedrock flume is to go over the Moore's creek ground again on a more extensive scale, and it is expected to pay immense dividends.—*Idaho Republican*.

Steps are being taken at North Yakima toward the formation of irrigating districts under the McIntyre bill recently passed by the Washington legislature. The moment reliable irrigation is provided, the many acres in the Yakima country now given up to sage brush will possess strong attractions for the farmer. The soil is of the richest if only moisture can be obtained. The present move will remedy that difficulty.

Mrs. Barrett, who owns the major portion of the property around Chehalis, Wash., and by holding it from the market has, in the past, seriously hampered the growth of the town, has placed it in the hands of Messrs. Holton & Newland, the enterprising real estate dealers of that city, who are now putting it on the market in an attractive form. This gives the city a better opportunity to expand than ever before.

The council of Spokane Falls is moving in the matter of enlarging the city limits under the blanket bill providing such relief for cities of over 20,000 population. Heretofore a large portion of the city has been outside the very restricted corporate limits. The incorporation will be made three and a half miles square, including territory on both sides of the river.