

# THE SIUSLAW PILOT

VOL. I.

FLORENCE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 1913

NUMBER 21

## F.A. WATKINS, NEBRASKA NEWSPAPER MAN, WRITES OF RESOURCES OF SIUSLAW COUNTRY

As per request I will try to give you some of my impressions of the Siuslaw district of Oregon. Like all countries on earth, it has many things to boast of and some things that could be complained of if one were pessimistically disposed. But as viewed from the practical and broad-minded standpoint, I believe the Siuslaw country has a great future before it.

To rightly judge a country one must necessarily take a proper inventory of its resources and the productiveness of its soil. When you find a country where the soil is rich and yields abundantly from field, garden and orchard—that country is one of increasing growth and prosperity.

Having spent four months on the North Fork of the Siuslaw, I have had time to form some definite conclusions as to the productiveness of the soil and those things that will go toward the development of this portion of Oregon. I find that nowhere have I seen a country where dairying, gardening and horticulture can be carried on so easily and successfully as here. California boasts of its staid climate (perpetual sunshine) and greatness in quantity and quality of its fruits and vegetables. But the Californians have to expend much money and exercise a great deal of muscle to engage in horticulture or market gardening. The soil is hard to till and has to be irrigated, the latter costing much in cash, to say nothing of time and labor. Again, in California as well as most all other countries, pests that prey upon trees and plants are a source of great annoyance. California is one of the unique spots of the earth, in that it excels southern Italy in its staid climate and is a mecca for thousands who wish to escape the extremes of climate found in the North, the South, the East and Middle West. As far as I have been able to judge, the Siuslaw district can boast of being, in more respects than one, a more unique country than Southern California. Here the soil is abundantly stored with moisture the year around by Jupiter Pluvius, no irrigation to bother with.

Again, it can be appropriately named the "Land Perpetually Green" for Old Nature keeps mountain sides and valleys verdant the whole year through. The cows, sheep, goats and hogs—all live stock—graze in green pastures 365 days in the year, thus lacking in the seared and barren hills and valleys one sees in perpetually dry Southern California. There is no monotony of landscape in this respect but on the other hand the Coast Range of mountains, always in green garb and on whose slopes and peaks are to be found more giant trees—cedar, fir, spruce, etc.—than any other spot on the face of the whole earth, big timber of incalculable value to the lumber interests, the country over. This timber is a valuable asset of the Siuslaw not to be lost sight of—in fact, it is ever conspicuously in sight to settler and stranger. It is unique in that it never gets extremely warm in summer—rarely does it get colder than a frost or a light night freeze. In this connection where is there another country where frost or a light freeze does not more or less seriously blight or kill fruit and vegetation? Here the frost does not blight even the most delicate flower

and one can pick wild flowers from mountain sides and valleys all winter long. This is particularly true at this time. The absence of frost blight is truly a rare thing and is undoubtedly accounted for by the salt sea air and climatic conditions due to the distinctive lay of the valleys as shut in and protected by the Coast mountain range.

Where will you find a country where apples, pears, prunes, etc., grow so surely and abundantly, so perfect and delicious and totally free from pests and worm spots without spraying or care? I know of no other such rare horticultural district. Where is there another country where cabbage, turnips, parsnips, carrots, potatoes—in fact, every thing in the garden line—yields likewise more surely and abundantly and excels in size and quality—where there are no potato bugs or other pests common in most other countries?

It is the one district on earth where the famed loganberry yields more prolifically and lusciously than anywhere else—in fact, the natural home for this berry as well as the wild blackberry and huckleberry, the two latter among the most luscious of the berry family. Where will one find streams more abundantly stocked with trout and salmon than the Siuslaw river and its tributaries? The splendid year around fishing is one of the most valuable and pleasurable features of the Siuslaw coast district. Where will one find prettier streams than the Siuslaw and its main tributary, the North Fork? From a scenic standpoint they are veritable Hudsons and in the years to come will be noted for boat excursions.

The most urgent needs to add to the prosperity and happiness of the people of the Siuslaw country now are good roads, a railroad or two to give direct connection with such markets as Portland, Eugene and San Francisco. The writer is convinced there should be more concerted and cooperative efforts on the part of the valley settlers in the construction of more and better roads. All settlers should be interested in the legislative enactment of a more liberal road law—for a law that will make it possible for the utilization of more tax money for road building. The state as a whole should be impressed with the value of this and its share of responsibility. The writer likewise believes the government should cooperate with the state in the construction of permanent highways such as the mountain stage road from Junction City to Mapleton as well as the one from Eugene. What grand scenic routes these would be!

Florence should be vitally interested in better means of communication between the city and its rural communities. As the settlers now do all their shopping by motor boat, the business men of Florence could vastly improve trade relations with the settlers by liberally contributing to a sufficient fund to have the North Fork and other important tributaries cleared of all snags, now a source of great danger which prevent boating to and from Florence at low tide water. In view of the new railroad terminus at Acme this would be a good move at this psychological time to cultivate a closer feeling with the settlers. Once the river is snagged and the settlers co-

operate in cutting away the protruding timber on both banks of the stream there would not be so much bother with snags and drifts.

Florence can appropriately be called the White City of the Oregon coast by reason of the most of the buildings of the town being painted snow white which really makes the town appear more attractive.

I was surprised to find that Florence has no active business men's association or commercial club. There is nothing that will so substantially and effectively contribute to the growth of a town or city as a live boosting organization of this character. In order to make a club of the stick-to-it boosting kind, it needs to be organized along well defined and definite lines. Florence at this time needs just such a club. The best kind of an organization is one with presiding officers and a limited board of directors. Too large a board of directors is like the appointment of too many on a committee. The board of directors is the boosting squad that does things after the majority endorsement or vote of the full club membership. The list of committees should be as complete as practical. There should be a retail committee, a wholesale committee, a manufacturing committee, a transportation committee, an agricultural committee, a river and harbor committee, a horticultural committee, a dairy committee, etc. and in this each committee would have its direct mission and responsibility. Again, experience has proven that a satisfactory monthly fee should be paid the secretary to execute all business of the clubs—thus made to promptly attend to his duties in keeping the membership fees paid up and attend to all solicitations for funds.

Banquets can now and then be held to keep up the boosting interest, especially an annual banquet at which time there can be a full recounting of things accomplished by the city and club and reports from the various factories, mills, etc., all of which could be printed in an annual blue book which makes effective publicity in pamphlet form for distribution. The writer is convinced that such an organization at this time could accomplish a great deal for a deeper and better Florence harbor and lay a broader and deeper foundation for a Greater Florence. It is an organization each and every business man in Florence should be willing to join free of rancor or rivalry but each and every one pull together to unselfishly and unitedly work to promote the growth and welfare of the town. Such a club could wield a mighty influence with state and national lawmakers for larger improvements and harbor recognition for this part of the coast country. The legal part of the club's business should be in the hands of your ablest attorney to be a member of the board of directors as well as the club. A larger and deeper harbor at Florence would mean a solid future and a deeper part would mean a larger shipping center and a larger shipping point would insure the coming of competing railroads. We would say to the Florence business men to get together in an organization of this kind. Such a club could make itself helpful in fathering not alone a rhododendron carnival but also a farm, dairy, stock and industrial exposition with premiums along the same lines as an old fashioned bounty fair which would be something of material value in showing up the resources of the country as well as commend Florence as a live business center.

In closing I will say that I have come to the conclusion that one can establish a home on the Siuslaw and live easier and cheaper than any country I have ever visited and that it can particularly be commended as a healthy country.

W. J. P. Librarian

P. S. Since writing the above

note that your valuable paper has taken the initiative for the organization of a commercial club. A timely move. The late perdicament of the Anvil, your principal port vessel should be a warning to the business interests of Florence, that the many vessels lately stranded in your uncertain harbor makes it important that Florence get busy for a deeper, safer port. There is but one way to bring it about and that is through just such a boosting club. There is room enough on the Oregon coast for a Coos port and a Florence port. There is but one way to get a deeper and all the year round safe port at Florence—by the appropriation of sufficient money to extend the Jetties far enough out in the Ocean to safeguard an ever deepening harbor by keeping the sand out rather than letting it wash in as is the case at present. With a deep harbor everything else would come easy for Florence.

### SPORTING SPARKS

The report has been circulated that Congress has passed a law prohibiting the shooting of game birds throughout the United States. As far as we can learn this is an error. It seems that this law was made to protect wild game birds on their natural breeding grounds and will not affect this part of the country.

The deer season will open Aug. 1st and the local nimrods are preparing to take to the timber. It might be a good time to remark that everything that moves in the brush is not a deer nor a bear. So don't blaze away until you are sure it is a deer and that he has got horns as it is unlawful to shoot doe and fawns.

The Portland Coast league team has at least come into their own and are playing ball, every minute of the game. It is strange that they trailed along as long as they did with that splendid pitching staff.

The winners of the National and American league pennants look to be the New York Giants and the Philadelphia athletics, who battled for the worlds championship two years ago. The Pittsburg team are gaining every day but the Giants have a good solid lead and their team is working like a machine so it is doubtful if they are headed. The Philadelphia Nationals are in a crippled condition and will probably not get to giving again enough to head off the Giants. The Philadelphia Athletics are nearly 100 ahead of their nearest rival and nothing short of a miracle can stop their winning streak, although their pitchers are all showing the effect of the gruelling race.

The loss of the fight to Leach Cross seriously effected the chances of Bud Anderson for a try at the light weight championship. His next fight will be the most important of his career and he must win to stay in the race. The fact that he was operated on for appendicitis shortly after his fight with Cross should be taken into consideration when judging his ability against a first class man like Cross.

At the Council meeting last Monday night a board of viewers for the grading of Jefferson street and Garginer avenue were appointed. The members are L. J. Pourtales, H. L. McKee and E. S. Dyer. The president of the board and city surveyor are members ex-officio. The estimate cost of improvement is \$700.

### KNIGHTS OF THE MACCABEES INCREASING LOCAL MEMBERSHIP

Geo. Peil, Deputy State Commander for the Knights of the Maccabees, has been here several weeks in the interest of the local tent. Through his efforts a class of candidates were secured and taken to Mapleton last Monday night where they were initiated into the secrets of the order.

Acme Tent No. 89 was organized in Acme and for some time kept up its membership and interest. Many members moved away and its strength was so greatly reduced that about a year ago Mr. Peil came here and started a campaign to revive the tent. Strong support was secured at Mapleton and the tent was moved to that place. Again its strength was decreased by members moving away, so its officers agreed that if Mr. Peil would secure a certain number of members in Florence it would be best to move its headquarters to this place. Good will prevailed in all the arrangements and a larger class than expected was secured, most of whom went to Mapleton where they were given the work and entertained with a fine banquet at the Palace Restaurant.

Two new officers were elected to fill vacancies. These were R. C. Wygant, Knight Commander and Frank Smith Record Keeper. The tent will give a play entitled "Turn of the Tide" at Florence August 5th and at Mapleton on August 7th.

With the additional membership and new energy this lodge promises to become very strong in the near future.

### HARBOR SOUND CO. HAVE HANDSOME BOAT

The Harbor Sound Investment Co. has overhauled and repainted the new boat which they purchased this month.

This boat is a run about 26 ft. by 51-2 ft. beam. It is oak ribbed, the coaming and forward deck are of oak and mahogany. The cockpit is 8 ft. long, floor and sides covered with linoleum and the seating arrangement consists of folding chairs and a lazy back aft.

It has automobile steering gear with throttle and timer control, electric horn, electric side, range and engine lights, storage battery magneto and rear starter.

The engine which is under the forward folding deck is a three cylinder 21 H. P. Medium Duty Fox of the fourth port type. This beautiful craft makes better than 15 miles per hour and is decidedly the most costly boat of its size ever brought to this river.

Mr. Tom Wolf, the local agent for the Fox engine, went to Seattle and tried it out on lake Washington. He then purchased it for the Harbor Sound people and shipped it via Portland and the Patsy. He is having two more fine boats built in Seattle for his customers by the Pacific Coast Fox agents, Manny-Myers Co.

E. K. Wheeler was brought before Judge Severy last week for starting fire on the government domain. The arrest was brought about by Ranger Durbin of the Siuslaw National Forest, and the young man is charged with setting fire maliciously and feloniously. He waived trial and was released on \$500 bond to appear before the U. S. District Court at Portland. Quite a number think the arrest of the young man was unnecessary and based upon a mere technicality.

### Tide Tables—Corrected to read for the Siuslaw bar—One hour after for Florence

HIGH TIDES				LOW TIDES				
	a.m.	p.m.	Ht.		a.m.	p.m.	Ht.	
Tue., July 1...	11:33	6:21	10:39	8.1	Tue., July 1...	5:01	0.1	4:14
Wed., July 2...	11:55	6:5	10:57	8.1	Wed., July 2...	5:48	0.2	5:16
Thu., July 3...	12:41	6:9	11:41	8.9	Thu., July 3...	6:34	1.3	6:12
Fri., July 4...	0:01	9:6	1:26	7.2	Fri., July 4...	7:17	1.6	7:09
Sat., July 5...	0:30	9:6	2:08	7.5	Sat., July 5...	8:00	1.7	7:57
Sun., July 6...	1:47	9:5	2:51	7.8	Sun., July 6...	8:44	1.5	8:50
Mon., July 7...	2:08	9.1	3:33	8.0	Mon., July 7...	9:28	1.1	9:44
Tue., July 8...	3:03	8.5	4:18	8.1	Tue., July 8...	10:11	0.4	10:42
Wed., July 9...	4:02	7.8	5:05	8.3	Wed., July 9...	10:55	0.3	11:43
Thu., July 10...	5:08	7.1	5:55	8.4	Thu., July 10...	11:42	1.2	12:40
Fri., July 11...	6:24	6.4	6:48	8.5	Fri., July 11...	0:50	1.6	1:35
Sat., July 12...	7:44	6.0	7:42	8.7	Sat., July 12...	2:01	1.1	1:32
Sun., July 13...	9:02	6.0	8:38	8.9	Sun., July 13...	3:01	0.6	2:35
Mon., July 14...	10:15	6.1	9:30	9.0	Mon., July 14...	4:12	0.9	3:30
Tue., July 15...	11:14	6.3	10:20	9.1	Tue., July 15...	5:08	0.5	4:49
Wed., July 16...	12:00	6.6	11:08	9.1	Wed., July 16...	5:58	0.8	5:41
Thu., July 17...	12:47	6.8	12:47	9.1	Thu., July 17...	6:41	1.0	6:31
Fri., July 18...	0:30	6.0	1:24	7.0	Fri., July 18...	7:21	1.0	7:15
Sat., July 19...	0:31	8.8	1:57	7.2	Sat., July 19...	7:58	0.8	7:50
Mon., July 20...	1:08	8.5	2:28	7.5	Mon., July 20...	8:50	0.3	8:37
Tue., July 21...	1:46	8.1	2:58	7.4	Tue., July 21...	9:40	0.1	9:15
Wed., July 22...	2:21	7.6	3:29	7.5	Wed., July 22...	9:30	0.6	9:54
Thu., July 23...	3:00	7.1	3:57	7.6	Thu., July 23...	9:51	1.2	10:35
Fri., July 24...	3:41	6.5	4:27	7.7	Fri., July 24...	10:14	1.8	11:26
Sat., July 25...	4:23	6.0	5:05	7.8	Sat., July 25...	10:39	2.3	12:16
Sun., July 26...	5:09	5.4	5:48	7.9	Sun., July 26...	11:17	2.9	13:07
Mon., July 27...	5:57	5.1	6:31	8.0	Mon., July 27...	1:22	1.8	12:59
Tue., July 28...	6:52	5.2	7:14	8.2	Tue., July 28...	2:31	1.3	12:50
Wed., July 29...	7:49	5.6	8:03	8.5	Wed., July 29...	3:36	0.6	2:25
Thu., July 30...	8:45	6.1	8:42	8.9	Thu., July 30...	4:34	0.1	3:54
Fri., July 31...	9:42	6.6	9:37	9.3	Fri., July 31...	5:25	0.7	5:04

  

HIGH TIDES				LOW TIDES				
	a.m.	p.m.	Ht.		a.m.	p.m.	Ht.	
Fri., Aug. 1...	11:57	7.2	11:30	9.5	Fri., Aug. 1...	6:12	1.2	6:02
Sat., Aug. 2...	12:57	7.7	12:37	7.4	Sat., Aug. 2...	6:55	1.4	6:54
Sun., Aug. 3...	0:20	9.6	1:36	8.1	Sun., Aug. 3...	7:37	1.4	7:43
Mon., Aug. 4...	1:10	9.5	2:14	8.4	Mon., Aug. 4...	8:18	1.1	8:32
Tue., Aug. 5...	2:00	9.1	2:55	8.0	Tue., Aug. 5...	8:59	0.6	9:24
Wed., Aug. 6...	2:52	8.5	3:37	7.7	Wed., Aug. 6...	9:40	0.1	10:15
Thu., Aug. 7...	3:49	7.6	4:20	8.7	Thu., Aug. 7...	10:23	0.9	11:17
Fri., Aug. 8...	4:41	6.9	5:10	8.5	Fri., Aug. 8...	11:08	1.8	12:00
Sat., Aug. 9...	5:30	6.2	6:07	8.5	Sat., Aug. 9...	0:23	1.0	12:00
Sun., Aug. 10...	6:15	5.8	7:10	8.4	Sun., Aug. 10...	1:36	0.8	1:04
Mon., Aug. 11...	7:07	5.8	8:14	8.4	Mon., Aug. 11...	2:49	0.5	2:29
Tue., Aug. 12...	8:00	6.1	9:15	8.5	Tue., Aug. 12...	3:59	0.1	3:36
Wed., Aug. 13...	11:04	6.5	10:10	8.6	Wed., Aug. 13...	4:52	0.2	4:42
Thu., Aug. 14...	11:46	6.9	11:00	8.6	Thu., Aug. 14...	5:39	0.5	5:37
Fri., Aug. 15...	12:21	7.2	12:21	7.2	Fri., Aug. 15...	6:21	0.6	6:23
Sat., Aug. 16...	0:00	8.6	12:52	7.4	Sat., Aug. 16...	6:56	0.4	7:04
Sun., Aug. 17...	0:25	8.4	1:29	7.6	Sun., Aug. 17...	7:29	0.1	7:38
Mon., Aug. 18...	0:57	8.1	2:10	7.7	Mon., Aug. 18...	8:04	0.1	8:13
Tue., Aug. 19...	1:25	7.9	2:10	7.8	Tue., Aug. 19...	8:23	0.8	8:45
Wed., Aug. 20...	2:03	7.5	3:34	7.9	Wed., Aug. 20...	8:45	1.3	9:17
Thu., Aug. 21...	2:38	7.0	3:59	8.1	Thu., Aug. 21...	9:04	1.8	9:52
Fri., Aug. 22...	3:18	6.5	3:28	8.1	Fri., Aug. 22...	9:21	2.3	10:35
Sat., Aug. 23...	4:07	6.0	4:03	8.1	Sat., Aug. 23...	9:45	2.8	11:29
Sun., Aug. 24...	5:21	5.4	4:48	8.0	Sun., Aug. 24...	10:30	3.5	12:29
Mon., Aug. 25...	6:40	5.1	5:46	7.9	Mon., Aug. 25...	11:06	3.8	13:26
Tue., Aug. 26...	8:14	5.3	7:03	7.9	Tue., Aug. 26...	1:52	1.0	12:24
Wed., Aug. 27...	9:27	5.8	8:19	8.2	Wed., Aug. 27...	3:04	0.6	2:24
Thu., Aug. 28...	10:21	6.4	9:27	8.5	Thu., Aug. 28...	4:06	0.9	3:32
Fri., Aug. 29...	11:04	7.0	10:27	9.0	Fri., Aug. 29...	4:59	0.4	4:58
Sat., Aug. 30...	11:42	7.7	11:21	9.3	Sat., Aug. 30...	5:45	0.7	5:50
Sun., Aug. 31...	12:21	8.2	12:21	8.2	Sun., Aug. 31...	6:28	0.8	6:38