

mate Of Area al Factor In Development

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the shore-line. being so closely contiguous to the Pacific the area is naturally subjected to storms in winter but those who have lived much along the considerable stretch of the Oregon and California coasts freely admit that we, in our sheltered area, experience them less than the areas where rains are chill. Our winter storms are usually of moderate temperatures upward toward the degrees—again ocean influence in the warm winds rushing toward us from heated central California. Possibly, once in 20 years, snow will whiten the ground near the beach, but immediately melts. The Curry county grandmothers have never seen snow fall. Our recorded annual rainfall, averaging about 74 inches, is comparable to most of the United States, the difference being that here it falls in a more concentrated period while elsewhere it comes in snow, thunderstorms, and occasional showers. Summers here are usually quite dry, humidities sometimes falling below 10 per cent, but not such as to bring the level of water supplies to exhaustion. Winter rains sometimes reach what in other areas would be devastating downpours, with sometimes over an inch a day. In January of 1930, a total of 31.94 inches fell at Gold Beach, followed by over 12 inches during the first three days of February. Echoing our neighbors to the south, is was really "unusual weather." Because these climatic conditions have existed for centuries, coastal topography has yielded to the extent that such moisture as is not absorbed by the soil quickly runs off, giving us drainage sufficient to remove any danger of flooding, yet sometimes this runoff causes damage in eroding of soil on tilted areas. Thermometers, hereabouts, could well have only a range be-

tween 25 and 95 degrees and much of that scale wouldn't be use. The mercury rarely gets below the frost point and as rarely reaches, say, 80. The same outfit of clothes can be worn the year 'round, a layer of rain clothes being added in the winter but, usually, they're too hot.

Unlike almost any other area on earth, thundershowers along the immediate coast are unknown with exception of an occasional flash or two during a winter storm. Maybe once in five or ten years a hard lightning storm will pass across the mountains behind the towns but no one resident can recall a lightning strike in the immediate vicinity.

And, again almost unlike any other area, pestiferous and disease-carrying flies and mosquitoes are absent—possibly another benefit of the weather.

There is almost no time of day or night that there is not a breeze blowing along the coast. There are no "dog-days," when one cannot draw a life-size breath.

Petunias, fuscias, geraniums, and such-like are, practically, perennials, here.

During the hard winter storms, when wind and sea conditions are right, huge blobs of foam, sometimes as large as barrels, are whipped up from the rocky clefts and hurled inland a mile or so. Come upon, bounding through the air, by the unitiate, they are truly alarming, but, like one of their component bubbles,—that's how fragile the mass is.

In the early days, settlers from less-favored areas were quick to take advantage of the weather nature offered them here. Because of it, they farmed the year 'round instead of in brief, intense periods of work or enforced rest. Cattle, sheep, hogs, poultry could practically live off the land. Mild weather made outdoor forage possible without effort and hogs fattened for market without ever seeing grain. Sheep lamb in the open and are never bothered with except at marking and shearing time. Fresh garden truck, any day of the year, and fruit almost never blighted by frost.

In fact, as time has pointed out, this unique climate, closely approximates that which plant growers elsewhere must make in order to produce certain crops. While we are experiencing mild, humid weather the eastern growers are expending vast sums in their effort to duplicate, under glass, what nature hands out to us without effort. Our climate is a dependable, fixed element. To it has already been adapted the growth of many plants which the greenhousemen can only grow with his burden of manufacturing an artificial climate approximating that which nature, here,

supplies free.

To make the fullest use of this unique factor he who would take a fling at competing with the eastern florist should study the market and pick his crop on the basis of climate, primarily, because this single factor is his principal and highly advantageous toe-hold toward successful competition.

Sense And Some NONSENSE



By Dewey

Called away last week-end because of sickness, it was my lot to go by bus to Salem, on which trip I met many people. These, together with friends who met me, were anxious to know about Brookings and this area in Curry county.

So rapid has been the growth in this vicinity, so busy have people been in their work, they have failed to tell the world about the developments as they should have done.

This area, without doubt, is the most highly advertised section in the state, if not the northwest. The lily industry, with its fantastic growth, with capital made in such astronomical figures, a distorted idea has gone rampant all over the world. The gold rush in California about mid-nineteenth century could have excited people little more. The world

is talking, and much of it is not entirely correct.

Perhaps it is best for the area that such is talked, but the story is in many places: "It takes a pile of money to get a start there in anything. Through this talk some deserving people are kept away, and again, maybe less desirable will not come because the ante is too high.

One of the first questions on the lips of many: "What school facilities are offered there?" An answer to this question may keep some away, because the future of the children is foremost in the minds of many.

It is evident, too, that the lumber situation, almost alone, is holding down the more rapid development of the area.

The Willamette valley, with its traditions of conservatism, smugness, and such is the least interested of all sections in area. Quite self-sufficient unto itself, it is quite difficult for the average resident of that region to visualize any other section surpassing the opportunities which the Willamette valley claims to offer.

This area, to become more attractive than ever to people who

will work toward greater development should strive to interest a greater diversity.

Seated as it is in a dairy country, creameries should be bigger businesses. Sitting in the virgin stand of timber, lumbering must come to the front.

Toward these goals should this area work. Since the area has all the potentialities, the remaining thing is development of these resources.

4-H Sewing Club Works

Our meeting was called last Friday with the repeating of our 4-H pledge. Our song and yell leader led us in a yell. Roll call was answered by the name of a bird.

Charlotte Simpson was named as secretary to fill the vacancy caused when Elaine LaClair resigned.

Pasa Lee Kinion demonstrated a flat felt seam and Phyllis Darger demonstrated a French seam.

Sewing followed adjournment of the meeting, after which refreshments were served by Janice Marie March and Mary Lou Berger. They're making progress. — Janice Johnson, reporter.

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