

THE STAYTON MAIL

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WESTERN OREGON-- LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

Unexcelled Advantages for Profit in All Avocations.

Splendid Openings for the Investment of Capital—Steady Employment for Workingmen—Money for Farmers.

Oregon to-day comes nearer being an ideal state in every way than any other in the Union. For the business, professional or laboring man, for the farmer, fruit grower, poultryman, dairyman or lumberman the opportunities for advancement and profit are greater than elsewhere.

The state of Oregon is divided into three sections, physically—eastern, western and southern—the Cascade range of mountains dividing the state from its northern to southern boundaries.

Stayton being in the famous Willamette valley, the attention of the reader will be called especially to this portion, or the western part of the state.

This valley, which cannot be surpassed for healthfulness, beauty of scenery, salubrity of climate, and productiveness of soil, lies between the Cascade and Coast ranges of mountains, with an average width of over sixty miles and 150 miles in length.

The Willamette river runs northward through the valley and receives the water of many tributary streams. These streams are fed by the melting snows of the mountain ranges on the east and west, affording an abundant supply of pure, cold water of such sparkling clearness that trout and other fish, which abound in these waters, may be seen at a depth of twelve

or fifteen feet below the surface. The greater portion of the valley is sufficiently rolling to afford excellent drainage.

The soil is a rich, dark loam with a subsoil of clay, and all authorities agree that there is not another valley in the world that can surpass, and few equal it for general agricultural purposes. In fact, experiment and practical demonstration have proven that almost any kind of fruit, cereal or vegetable known to the temperate zone will thrive and produce to perfection in this valley.

To encourage the settlement of Oregon, congress in the fifties passed the donation land claim act, giving to each settler 320 acres, so that a man and his wife could take up 640 acres. These tracts are now being subdivided into tracts of from ten acres upward, thus affording the newcomer an opportunity to acquire a farm of nearly any size at reasonable cost.

The climate of the Willamette valley is most equable, never reaching the extremes of heat or cold. Snow rarely falls, and lightning and destructive wind storms are practically unknown. The rainfall, which comes late in the fall and during the winter, averages 44 inches per year, and the temperature ranges on an average from 66 degrees in summer to 42 in the winter, with a mean yearly average of 52 degrees.

Educational and Social Advantages.

That which has been a dominant principal in the onward march of American progress, and has been practically demonstrated in Oregon, is that the intellect must not be neglected. The state has set aside from her large timber holdings and sales of state land a fund devoted to the education of her young. Besides normal schools the state has the University of Oregon at Eugene, and the Oregon Agricultural College at Corvallis, two schools that are the peer of any state colleges in the United States. There are many other colleges and universities scattered over the state, mostly of a denominational order.

The public schools of Oregon are all graded, and the teachers generally of a high order of ability. Especially is this so of the schools of Stayton and vicinity. The people living in this section are largely of the opinion that "as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined," and with this in mind, believe in the proper education of the young, and desire their institutions of learning to be of the highest grade and best character. In this locality, where climatic conditions are so conducive to health, where industrial conditions are so inviting and where the productive power of the soil is so marvelous, it is the

purpose of the ambitious citizens to make the privileges of education, culture and morality equally as great.

Social Advantages.

One need not live in the vicinity of Stayton long before becoming impressed with the fact that "man is a social being." Here are the early pioneers who can relate thrilling experiences, tell of trials and hardships and give accounts of many amusing incidents when social privileges in Oregon were not what they are now. Here you meet the educated, the cultured and refined, who can converse readily on any subject whether it relates to home or foreign affairs. Here you will find the "newcomer," from all parts of "the east." You will also find, if you are a "newcomer," that a hearty welcome awaits you, and that you will receive the glad hand of fellowship from all. The people of Stayton and vicinity are noted for their sociability and friendliness, for their kindness in sickness or trouble, it matters not whether it be friend or stranger. All who have made it their home, even for a short time, speak of its people with the kindest regard. The stranger coming here to locate will soon find himself among friends.

Stock Raising.

For a number of years the farmers of this section have been raising standard bred horses and cattle, and Stayton and vicinity can show as fine stock as any place in the country. The town and neighborhood has some of the finest imported Percherons, Clydesdales, Belgians, French and German Coach and also standard bred trotting and pacing breeds.

The surrounding country contains many of the best breeds of cattle, hogs and sheep. Horses as well as other kinds of livestock command good

prices, governed, of course, by breeding, age, etc., as elsewhere.

Some eastern farmers, especially those from the "corn belt," come here with the expectation of finding a poor class of hogs, believing corn necessary to fatten them. It does not take long for this class to discover their mistake, as hogs will be found in Oregon markets as fat as any found in the "corn countries." These hogs are grain fed and the meat is much better flavored than the corn fed variety. Many farmers raise corn for their hogs but the majority are fattened on grain.

FRUITS.

Stayton and vicinity is peculiarly adapted to the growing of fine fruits.

Apples grow to perfection and fortunes have been made by Oregon apples. This section grows as good apples as any part of the state.

Cherries of all kinds grow in abundance and no finer fruit of this kind can be produced anywhere than right around Stayton. From 500 to 1000 pounds is often grown on one tree.

Pears are one of the staple fruits and grow immense in size and delicious in flavor.

Grapes are grown extensively and thrive well. The vines bear heavily and the fruit is large and luscious.

Prunes are grown in large quantities and many farmers have become independent raising this fruit.

Strawberries, raspberries, black berries and loganberries are largely grown and are the equal of any raised on earth. Stayton produces as fine strawberries as any section of the state, and Oregon is famous for this delicious fruit.

English walnuts grow successfully here and there are some bearing trees in the vicinity of Stayton; black walnuts and butternuts also grow well but are not native to the soil. The culture of English walnuts is just beginning on an extensive scale. Many acres of trees were planted in the Willamette valley last year. The Oregon product is much superior to that of California.

DAIRYING.

One of the most profitable industries in eastern Marion county is dairying, no section under the sun being better favored by nature or offering better facilities for successfully and profitably following this department of rural life. The equable climate, abundance of pure water, freedom from insect pests, rich, nutritious grasses and a good home market are advantages not to be overlooked by dairymen looking for a location.

The report of the State Dairy Commissioner shows that although the amount of butter made in Oregon is increasing annually, this increase is not keeping pace with the demand.

Some Actual Results.

The following results from different branches of farming and fruit growing are taken from different sources and published so that one unacquainted with the wonderful fertility of Willamette valley soil, may get a clear idea of the large crops grown and the handsome profits secured. The name of any grower mentioned below will be furnished on request.

A grower owns a cherry orchard 18 years old, occupying 1 1/4 acres. From this orchard in 1907 he sold \$1363.00 worth of cherries.

Another has 4 acres of strawberries, from which he sold 800 crates at \$1 a crate.

From 3 acres of cherries another sold 10,000 lbs. at 4 1/2 cents per lb.

A prune grower marketed 28,400 lbs of dried prunes from 8 acres, receiving \$1,477 for them. Another prune grower from less than 4 acres received \$576.47.

A peach grower cleared \$535 per acre. He turns his hogs in the peach orchard during the winter.

Off from 15 acres, another small farmer raised 5,000 bushels of potatoes, and off from 1 1/2 acres he secured 5 tons of cherries.

A lady owns a 3 acre orchard of 18 year old apple trees from which in 1907 she marketed 514 bushels.

A grain farmer reports a yield of 30 bu. of wheat and 45 bu. of oats per acre.

As an experiment, a farmer planted an acre of celery, and realized over \$1,000 from his experiment.

Hens paid another an average of \$4 to \$5 each per week the year round. He kept about 80.

Oregon is the sportsman's paradise. All kinds of fishing and hunting.

MARION COUNTY-- THE PEER OF ALL

Farming, Fruit Raising, Dairying, Lumbering, Mining.

Good Schools, Churches and Social Advantages—Healthful Climate—Home of Contented and Prosperous People.

Marion county, in the heart of the most fertile portion of the Willamette valley, is one of the richest and most progressive counties in the state. It has a frontage of over 40 miles on the Willamette river and is the scene of the first permanent settlement made in the state. It produces excellent yields of grain of all kinds and the stock raising and dairying interests are most stable and reliable sources of income to the farmer. There are a number of creameries and cheese factories in operation. Grain, cattle, sheep, hogs, Angora goats and poultry are extensively raised, and the sale of beef, pork, mutton, wool, mohair, butter and eggs yield handsome profits to the farmer. Marion county's standing timber is equal to 3,500,000,000 feet. The value of its farms is \$15,000,000; farm products, \$2,500,000; and live stock, \$1,500,000. It is the hop producing centre of the state and raises annually 6,000,000 pounds. It produces over 2,000,000 bushels of grain annually, one million bushels of potatoes and 250,000 pounds of wool.

Grain raising in Marion county is a profitable industry. Wheat is a staple

crop in the vicinity of Stayton and always brings a good price, and the crop never fails. Dairying is a growing industry that is proving a great source of profit to its followers. Dairy products always command a good price and stock can be kept much cheaper than in the colder states where heavy winter feeding is necessary. In the Willamette valley cattle can find grass all winter and many farmers feed no hay or grain to stock during the year.

Land in Marion county can be purchased at from \$10 to \$60 per acre, location and improvements considered.

The county has the best roads of any in the state, and road building is being carried on in a permanent way, much macadam road having been built the past two years.

Marion county is out of debt and the tax levy is low. County finances are economically handled and no unjust burdens in the way of taxation are laid upon the people. The county court house is a large, excellent building, costing \$132,000. Many hundreds of miles of rural telephone lines are in use in the county and about thirty rural mail routes carry mail to rural residents.

Stayton Public Schools.



Stayton is proud of her public school and well may be. The school



MISS CORNELIUS, PRINCIPAL.

is conducted by a competent corps of

instructors, each peculiarly fitted for the department in charge.

The school building is a large four roomed structure, with fine, large grounds.

The principal and instructor in the High School is Miss Lizzie Cornelius, an able and experienced instructor, much interested in her school work and with a special pride in the success of her pupils. Prof. Ramsey is another able instructor and has charge of the Grammar department. Misses Minnie Miller and Veva Gardner have charge of the Intermediate and Primary departments, respectively. Both are teachers of experience, and the high esteem in which they are held by both pupils and parents is the best evidence of their success.

The Board of Education is composed of G. W. Murphy, E. Roy and E. Shepherd. Mrs. Chas. Stayton is clerk of the Board.

Minerals.

The mineral wealth of eastern Marion county is unknown. Experienced miners say that the formation is like that at Cripple Creek, Colo., and that there is untold wealth in gold in our mountains, but that it is deep in the earth and the mines will take capital to develop.

A number of mines have been opened with good prospects, and in the Elkhorn district work is being carried on extensively. The work here has

been carried to the point where it is known the gold is in the ground and it is but a matter of a few years before gold will be taken from these mountains in large quantities.

Stayton is the source of supplies for this mining territory and large quantities of goods of various kinds go from here into the mountains.

If you want to milk cows, this is the best place in the world to milk them. More money in it for the same work than elsewhere on the green footstool.