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Come to Crook County --- A Land of Opportunity

The Oregon and Western Colonization Company of St. Paul, Minn., have issued a neat booklet, well illustrated with scenes from Central Oregon. It covers the line of the military road grant lands from Albany to Ontario. Its sketch of Prineville and Crook County reads as follows:

In the Pine Forests.

At the western end of the valley the character of the country changes and the level plain gives way to the broken foot hills surrounding Buck Mountain. The military road winds around the base of the mountain and plunges into thick forests extending for many miles in which the road grant selections are heavily timbered with yellow pine. In addition to 94,750,000 feet of this timber the lands in this district include 13,135,000 feet of bull pine. Further west the grant enters an excellent grazing country with a heavy growth of bunch grass, affording a range for thousands of sheep.

Paulina Valley, in which lies the town of that name, offers an immense area of rich agricultural land, and, like smaller valleys adjacent to it, exhibits a rich, deep soil suitable to alfalfa, fruit and cereal. Irrigation is undeveloped except for private ditches, watering

the ranches already established. The valley is sheltered and with the construction of railways will experience a rapid development.

Farther to the West the road grant lands follow the upper reaches of the Crooked river, one of the important watercourses of this region, and embrace in addition to limited areas in the comparatively



Crook County Court House, Prineville, Oregon

narrow valley, valuable higher lands suitable to dry farming. These lands, and especially such as lie adjacent to the great Crooked River Valley, are already settled upon and are producing excellent crops, although but little of the road grant has been developed except under lease.

Following the military road westward as it traverses these rolling benches, the first view of Crooked River Valley as it lies spread out below is startling. It is so well hidden by the ranges of hill and jutting shoulders of its surrounding mountains that one is hardly prepared to discover, at a sudden turn of the road, a marvelous pan-

tion, lies on the southern edge of the valley, its limits cut by Ochoco and Crooked rivers, from which is taken the water supply which irrigates the improved lands.

There is no more beautiful scene in the West than Crooked River Valley as viewed from its eastern edge. Few districts are favored with so rich and productive a soil, climate of equal advantages or so great opportunities for development at the hands of the intelligent farmer and orchardist.

Stock and Alfalfa.

The Crooked River Valley is not a new district. Many of its ranches date back to early settlement of the West and are splendidly improved. They were created as stock ranches solely, but in recent years have yielded to the introduction of bloomed animals and the breeding industry, to the growing of alfalfa and forage crops, in some degree to modern fruit raising, and in a very considerable measure to the cultivation of cereal crops.

Throughout the length and breadth of the valley the road grant occupies alternate sections, except in a few instances of prior sales. The other alternate sections were taken as homesteads many years ago and are now farms and ranches which have been carefully improved and developed.

Private ditches have been run from the water supply of the rivers and splendid fields of grain and alfalfa indicate the adaptability of the soil and the beneficent influence of the climate in the production of profitable crops. Crooked River Valley rye grows so tall as to hide a grown man. The valley lands are unsurpassed for gardening, although so little attention has thus far been devoted to this line that the production is not sufficient to supply the local market.

Profits in Fruit.

The growing of small fruits, where it has been tried, has invariably been a success, yet practically all the strawberries sold upon the local market are shipped to the end of the railway and transported to Prineville by stage. The same is true of other berries, of garden vegetables, potatoes and green truck.

and stage from distant points to supply the town and its adjacent territory.

Few western cities have so great an agricultural region within a convenient trade radius as Prineville. The entire valley lies at its doors. Joining the Crooked River Valley and to the east lies Ochoco Valley, tributary to which is an immense grazing region in which there are many stock ranches. Across the Crooked river valley to the north lie broad benches, which even without irrigation ditches are producing heavy dry farm crops of wheat, rye and other cereals. Back from the city to the south extends a broad bench plain which is already proven to be an exceedingly productive wheat country. It is capable of irrigation and will doubtless be watered by the extension of the existing Deschutes ditches, but at present cultivation

Railway surveys cut Crooked river valley from end to end and pass through Prineville. Two lines of railway are now pushing down the Deschutes river and will have rails into Bend, 36 miles distant, during the present year. Following the completion of this construction, the extension of other lines will begin, opening up the isolated regions which have waited so long for railway development, to the markets and the commerce of the outside world.

Even its isolation has not prevented a healthy growth in Prineville. The city has a beautiful high school building and is constructing a modern public school, is the county seat and has a beautiful stone court house, strong banks and mercantile establishments doing a heavy business, a timber mill, a sawmill and machine shop, flour mill and other industries.



Scene at Bonnyview Farm, Crook County, Oregon

Few districts in the West offer the same promise to the orchardist. Fruit growing is in its infancy, and has not yet been attempted upon a broad or scientific scale, yet throughout the valley apples and other fruits are being grown and have proven very profitable even when the fruit culture is on a limited scale. It is highly probable that this district will when it has been proven for this purpose, be shown to possess a climate especially adapted to the growing of the finest Bartlett pears. A few trees now in bearing are giving fruit of exceptional color and quality and are remarkable for their sturdy growth, their heavy bearing and their entire freedom from disease. Apple trees in bearing give much the same evidence that production, upon a commercial scale will bring this district for-

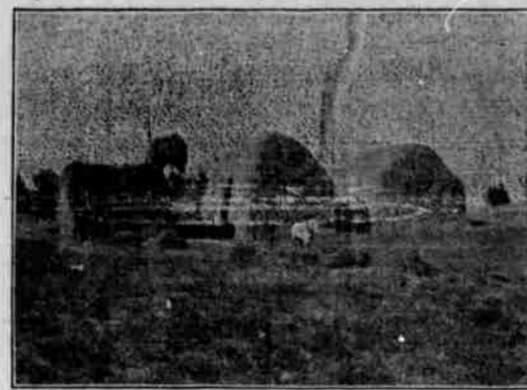
ward as one of the great fruit producing areas of Oregon. The brilliant sunshine and mild winter contribute as well to a sturdy growth, and a highly colored, sound and fine flavored fruit. The soil is unsurpassed for fruit raising. Trees in this district are absolutely free from disease.

is under dry farm methods. Without the water it will this year show wheat yields of from 40 to 45 bushels and correspondingly heavy yields of other grain crops. This is known as the Powell Butte country, flanked on its southern edge by high ranges of hills, from which there is a drainage in the spring due to melting snows which produces sub-irrigation in many sections and greatly increases the productiveness of the land. The soil of the Powell Butte country is rich and deep, cut in places by rocky ridges. Between these ridges lie sheltered sections timbered with juniper, which provides fuel and posts for farm purposes, which when cleared will be farm lands of great value. Throughout this entire district there is scattered farm development sufficient to prove both the productiveness

The purchase of the road grant lands by the Oregon & Western Colonization Company has been followed by a brisk movement of farm lands in this district and by largely increasing activity in all lines of business. Prineville is already the largest center for an enormous region, and with the completion of the railway, is destined to become one of the most important of the interior cities of Oregon.

A corporation has been formed, with \$30,000 stock paid in, to bring into the city from 2,000 to 6,000 electric horsepower and plans are being drawn for a new gravity water system. There is a heavy

Continued on inside page.



Familiar Scene in Crook County

Excellent Local Markets. This region has never had a professional market gardener. The market afforded in Prineville alone is sufficient to absorb a large production, and is greatly extended by the demand for every kind of garden produce at a large number of interior points regularly reached by stage transportation lines from Prineville. Even potatoes, a crop excellently suited to this district, are not produced in sufficient quantities to care for the local market and are brought in by rail

of the soil and the adaptability of the region for grain farming.

The crops of 1910 are a sufficient indication of the richness of this district. Wheat has averaged over the entire district from 30 to 40 bushels, with higher yields in favored localities, as noted above. Oats and barley have averaged from 40 to 80 bushels. Alfalfa has ranged from 4 1/2 to 9 tons per acre and all orchard crops have been exceptionally heavy. This is a natural condition of production when one considers that on irrigated lands the farmer is absolutely independent of the rains and, to a large degree, of the weather.

Prineville, like Burns, is at present without a railway. It lies sixty miles to the south of the end of the Columbia Southern at Shaniko, and has no transportation except by stage and automobile.

Christmas Shopping

Half the pleasure of making Holiday Gifts is taken away by difficulties in finding the very thing wanted—the article that suits the need—one that will express the regard of the giver.

The useless—the profuse—the gaudy gift is out of date and it is conceded to be better form and better sense to give the busy housewife a needed kitchen utensil than to present her with a musical photograph album that will soon cease to perform.

Our store contains thousands of articles that will enable you to make the sensible, satisfactory Christmas offering.

Our suggestions may be of some benefit to you, saving you not only much money but time and worry.

If in doubt what to get or give, let us know your troubles and we will prescribe for instant relief.

Heaters That Will Save You Money.

In buying heaters for this winter we have bought only those that give out the greatest amount of heat for the minimum amount of fuel. If you need a heater call and let us talk over the matter with you, as a stove constructed on the wrong principle, even if bought at a low price will be expensive, while a good heater will not only give satisfaction but will do something toward paying for itself.

Christmas Groceries.

Breakfast Bacon.
Breakfast Ham.
Breakfast Foods.
Nuts, Raisins, Currants, Extracts, and most excellent Coffee.
Paradise Ginger Snaps.
"Luxury" Brand of Table Fruits cost no more than others, but are 20 per cent better.
Try one tin only of our "Better" French Peas and String Beans.

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Kitchen Set.
Aluminum Ware.
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Dainty Linens.
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Scarf Pins.
Brooches.
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Hat Pins.

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