



MAIN STREET, OREGON CITY

progress, from any point of view, during the recent years of business depression, than in any previous period of its history. This is not true of Oregon City, because its progress had before been slow, for it had previously had years of very notable prosperity in business activity and material growth, but the widespread depression seemed to make people look to places having the most indisputable merits, where destruction of values was least liable to take place, and Oregon City stood the test. So there was a substantial increase of population, building operations were unprecedentedly active and general business was good in the midst of conditions that frightened capital everywhere else, and to a great extent prostrated the commercial activities of the world.

During the year 1894 the main business street of Oregon City was paved with brick at a cost somewhat exceeding \$40,000. This was the first vitrified brick pavement in the Northwest, and gives entire satisfaction. Other streets have been extensively improved, making them handsome and modern thoroughfares.

There are nearly 6000 people resident at Oregon City. Not all of these are within the official limits of the town, but they are within a radius of a little more than a mile from the Oregon City postoffice, and are included in the suburban communities—Cane-mah, Ely, Gladstone, Clackamas Heights, Park Place, West Lynn, Windsor, West Side and Willamette Falls. The latter town is connected with the city by the Willamette Falls electric line, over which 100 cords of wood is carried daily to the pulp and paper mills for heating purposes. The prosperity of these is linked to that of Oregon City, and the progress of the whole depends in a large measure upon the development of the water power at the falls.

A comparison of some of the great water powers of the country with that of the falls of the Willamette may be of interest.

	Horse-power.
Oregon City, Or.	55,000
Minneapolis, Minn.	20,000
Holyoke, Mass.	19,000
Manchester, N. H.	11,000
Lawrence, Mass.	12,000
Lowell, Mass.	11,845

There has been comparatively little development of the Oregon City water power. About 8000 horse-power is now used in manufacturing here. The most important improvement in the matter of turning the power of the falls to commercial uses has been made by the Portland General Electric

Company. This company was incorporated in 1892 with a capital stock of \$4,250,000. It has constructed a station whose capacity is 12,000 horse-power, and furnishes electricity for lighting Oregon City and transmits the current to Portland, a distance of 12 miles, and lights that entire city. It also furnishes electric power to operate a line of street-cars between Oregon City and Portland, and street-car lines in the City of Portland. It supplies currents in any quantity for lights, power and heating, and furnishes motive power for running everything, from the largest factory to ventilating fans and sewing machines. At the present time the manufacturing, the elevators and the various kinds of machinery in Portland use about 20,000 electric horse-power, which is generated at Oregon City.

Traffic passing through the locks pays tribute that finds circulation in this city. A toll is exacted for passage through the canal locks that belong to the Portland General Electric Company. In time the Government will probably buy this "public utility" and traffic will be free of toll. The Government offers \$450,000 for the locks and dam. The owners ask \$1,200,000. The charges collected by the General Electric Company for all lockage amounts annually to \$40,000.

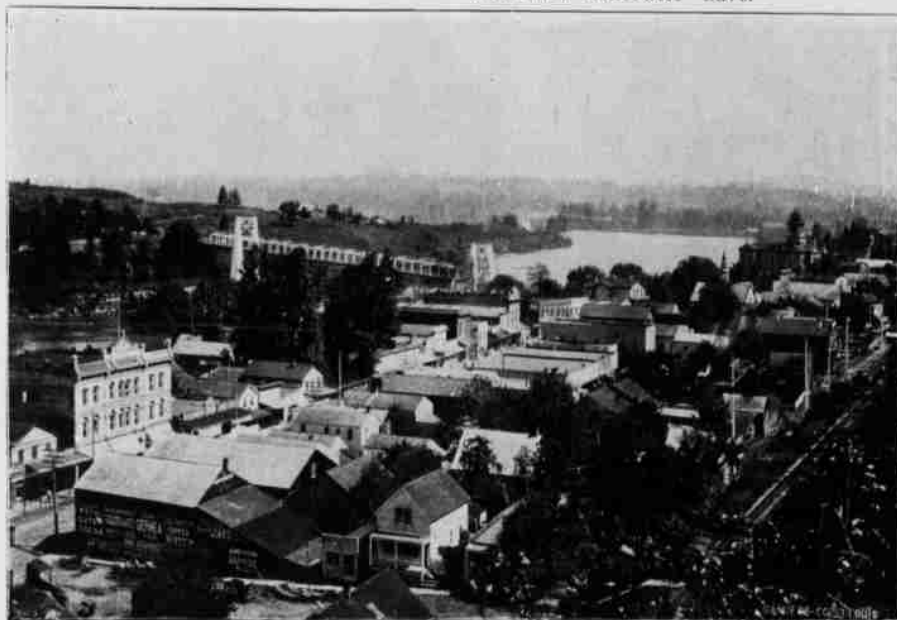
Public school facilities include seven schoolhouses and 25 teachers, all the schools being graded. The Catholics have a parochial school also. There are Baptist, Catholic, Congregational, Episcopal, German Evangelical, Methodist, Presbyterian, two Lutheran and United Brethren churches and the talent in the pulpits is quite rare in towns of this size. Of the social, fraternal and benevolent orders there are lodges of Freemasons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, United Workmen, Foresters, Redmen, Woodmen, Grand Army and cognate organizations, a military company and several smaller social clubs.

Oregon City has two banks, employing a capital of \$200,000. The United States Land Office for the district, embracing 11 counties in Northwestern Oregon, is located here, and there are but three in the United States that do a larger business. The town has two weekly newspapers, a first-class theater, four hotels, three livery stables, three public and four lodge halls and a large number of mercantile houses.

Being the seat of justice of so large a county, Oregon City has many advantages in the way of trade and influence that it would not otherwise have.



DR. McLOUGHLIN, Founder of Oregon City.



OREGON CITY LOOKING DOWN WILLAMETTE