

# OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE.

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## A LAND OF SUPERIOR RICHNESS.

Clackamas the Matchless County of Western Oregon.

### OREGON CITY THE HUB

Willamette Water-Power Unsurpassed.

### SUGAR BEET INDUSTRY.

A General Idea of Locality—Rare Features of Scenic Beauty—Facilities for Transportation—The Greatest Water Power in the World at the Limit of Tide-Water—Unexcelled Opportunities for Mills—Evenness of Temperature and Salubrity Rarely Equalled—Brief Paragraphs on Other Subjects.

In this report of our many resources I will state so as not to mislead or misinform those seeking information of our country that I have secured data from people who have personally visited the entire section of which I have written, and I have endeavored to keep safely within the bounds of reason, and I do not hesitate to say that owing to the unsurpassed water power and other natural advantages and facilities which this city possesses there is no better opening for manufactures in the entire west. I have also written several sketches of our business and professional people and I expect and welcome criticism, realizing only too well that my little work is incomplete and perhaps is somewhat crude in detail. My only excuse is the hurried manner in which it has been prepared, such being the case, I would crave the friendly indulgence of the readers and ask of them so far as consistent with their good nature "to pass my imperfections by" thanking the generous public for the liberal support accorded me I am

Yours truly,  
G. B. ANDERSON.

The spirit of unrest which now prevails in the states east of the Mississippi seems to have contributed to a wide spread desire for a change of base, and as the star of the empire courses its way westward, all eyes are turned towards the Pacific for some sign of encouragement, and all ears listen for tidings of the new land of the sunset shores.

The success of the majority of homeseekers in this portion of the Northwest inspires multitudes to follow and to try anew their fortunes where success has come to so many.

It has recently dawned upon the Eastern mind that the amount of good agriculture land in proportion to the entire area of this region is much greater than has been properly shown or even supposed. All kinds and branches of farming known to northern latitudes are carried on more successfully in Oregon than in the Eastern or middle states.

Clackamas county is situated in the northwestern part of the state of Oregon with the summit of the Cascade mountains for its eastern boundary, and the Willamette river on the west. On the north is Multnomah county, in which Portland is situated and on the south by Marion in which is Salem, the capital of the state. The area of Clackamas county considerably exceeds that of the entire state of Rhode Island and has a population of about 23,000 people.

Extending from mountain peak to river strand it naturally follows that Clackamas county presents a great variety of topographical features and is adapted to a wide range of industries. There are river bottoms, level prairies, rolling uplands, the broken foothills, the rugged fastnesses of the mountains and every intermediate character of country. Part of the land bears a heavy growth of fir, part has alder, maple, larch and other deciduous trees. Soils vary from a light loam to a heavy clay. From the banks of the Willamette, where snow seldom falls, to the perpetual ice fields of Mount Hood, which is also in Clackamas county there is a great range of climate conditions. The streams following into the Willamette river in Clackamas county are rapid. Along their banks are large areas of agricultural land that is scarcely surpassed in productive capacity. The soil in these river bottoms partake of the nature of alluvium and is deep and rich. What may be termed second bottom

land, lying on the benches, between the river bottoms and the upland, has a soil somewhat heavier than the bottoms. The more rolling land is a clay or clayey loam, with indications in some places of being derived from decomposed volcanic matter. All these soils are of great strength, and easily tilled.

All the common farm products are successfully grown in every part of the county except far in the mountains where the altitude approaches the frost line. In some parts of the county semi-tropical crops are grown. Prunes, peaches, apricots, quinces, grapes, water-melons and tomatoes are among these. The ordinary cereals yield enormous crops, there being many instances where more than sixty bushels of wheat per acre have been harvested, not merely in selected garden patches but in large fields. The usual harvest, however, is only about half that number of bushels per acre. Other grains are correspondingly prolific. It has passed into proverb that Willamette valley crops never fail. Clackamas county promises to come to the front as a producer of minerals. In the extreme southern part of the county a ledge of gold bearing rock has recently been discovered and there is great activity among prospectors to get locations in that section. Capital will at once be put into developing gold mines there. The sands of nearly all the mountain streams carry gold. There are coal out-croppings in the foothills in the south western part of the county and indications of coal and oil at several other places. Iron mines have been extensively worked in the northern part of the county. Platinum has also been discovered on the bank of the Clackamas river, three miles from Oregon City, and there seems every probability that the find will prove a very valuable one. As the attention of the people is turned from "booming" to developing the resources of the county great results will be obtained from this section.

### CLIMATE AND TEMPERATURE.

One of the most important questions asked by the people in the blizzard and cyclone districts of the East is about our climate, concerning which scarcely too much can be said. The general belief is that latitude determines climate and this erroneous impression is the most difficult to meet and correct in discussing the weather of the entire region of the Northwest. While the influence of the gulf stream upon the climate of Western Europe is quite generally known, but little appears to be known regarding the effect of the Japan current, warm from the tropics, upon the climate of the North Pacific coast. In fact the effect is the same, giving this country a climate similar to that of Southern Pennsylvania and Maryland without the sultry and exhausting nights, which are here cool, pleasant and refreshing. The excellence of the climate of this region, which knows neither extreme, is no less marked than that of its famous soil. Spring begins in February, by which time plows are running, and lasts until the middle of June. In summer, owing to the pure atmosphere, the weather is never oppressive; sunstrokes are unknown here. Winter begins about the holidays and breaks up in February. It does not rain here all the year round nor does it rain incessantly for months or weeks at any season of the year. The winter is the wet season, the summer, the dry. The rainy season usually extends from October to June and moisture does not fall between June and October. But there are periods of the brightest and balmy weather sometimes weeks at a time during the wet season. Such freaks of nature as cyclones, blizzards, tornadoes and heavy thunder storms are unknown and a drouth is not ever dreamed of. Generally the climate is considered a remarkably healthful one. There is a certain odor of cedar and pine that sweeps over the country, making it of peculiar benefit to those who are troubled with weak lungs. The death rate shows that the percentage is as small here as anywhere in the United States.

### THE FRUIT INDUSTRY.

It has been but a few years that an idea of our possibilities as a fruit producer has dawned upon the people, even of this commonwealth. For many years the people raised their own fruit but had never thought of the possibility of making this one of their principle articles of export. The land in some sections is especially adapted for fruit raising, apples, peaches, pears, plums, prunes, apricots, cherries and small fruits all seem natural to this climate and

all kinds of berries known to horticulturists mature here quickly and yield most bountifully. Apple trees, of which the Oregon red apple is well known all over the country, bear in three or four years, peach trees in the second and third, prunes and plums also bear early and in great profusion. The different varieties of prunes equal those of Italy and Turkey. Our berries for size and flavor are unsurpassed. The size of the strawberry is phenomenal. The variety grown for shipment and which is the most perfect of its kind is the Clarke's Seedling. These berries find their market in the mining towns of Montana, Denver and in Kansas City and other far Eastern points. We claim, and results appear to justify our claim, that the cooler winter climate of this valley matures the wood of the fruit trees and vines better than the comparatively frostless winters of Southern California thereby producing fruit of better flavor and superior keeping qualities. The fruit belt is of large area and the soil is divided into two distinct and widely varying classes. The larger area a dark brown loam, composed of decomposed basalt and is from ten to fifty feet in depth, the latter being not uncommon at the foot of some of the slopes. This holds moisture well and grows all kinds of fruit without irrigation. The other is the very sandy soil along the Willamette river.

### SUGAR FROM THE BEET.

FARMER'S BEST HOPE IS TO RAISE SUGAR BEETS—SOIL AND CLIMATE SPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE INDUSTRY.

Those engaged in the pioneer work of establishing the beet-sugar industry in Oregon will find much of interest in the following interview with Judge Chas. H. Carey. Judge Carey has devoted a great deal of attention to the beet-sugar industry especially with regard to establishing it in this state. He regards it as the only relief for farmers from this present depressed condition and expresses belief that the culture of sugar beet is thoroughly practical in Oregon. While traveling through California he visited the Cheno factory and speaks in the highest terms of the prosperity it has brought to the immediate district. He further states that he has taken a great interest in the beet-sugar industry for several years past and sees in it the solution of the question of what shall the Oregon farmer do to be saved.

It seems about time that an effort should be made by the people of the Northwest to become producers as well as consumers. Nature has been bountiful in producing climate and soil for the growing of the sugar beet, and every American family are users of sugar. Oregon and Washington do not produce a pound of this indispensable luxury and remit into other countries thousands of dollars annually for supplies. This money can as well be kept at home and paid out to our own people in wages and the like. Moreover a beet-sugar factory requires an enormous amount of fuel and lime and the by-product of the factory is of great value as cattle food, fertilizer, etc., so that there are other industries that will be stimulated by the establishing of such a factory. It will require a cultivation of from 3000 to 5000 acres of land to supply an ordinary sized factory and with beets at \$5 per ton there is a gold mine in it for the farmer. From the proceedings of the 3d general convention of the Nebraska Beet Sugar Association the beet farmers in that state netted on an average of \$50 per acre which should mean \$75 to \$100 per acre in Oregon. The value of sugar consumed in this country is greater than the value of bread stuffs. Our exportation of grain is less than importation of sugar. The soil of Oregon is more adapted to beet culture than wheat raising. The profit on an acre of beets is from \$30 to \$50, on an acre of wheat it is from \$10 to \$12. Does this not illustrate one reason for the present depressed condition of our farmers, and through them of our manufacturers of the country? It is not in our laws or financial policy so much as in the use put to our resources that the present condition is due. We need a revolution, not one against the government, but an industrial one that will place our farmers in a position to use their lands to better value.

(Continued on page 5.)

Arbuckles or Lion coffee, 16 cents; beans 2 cents per lb; dried apples and prunes 5 cents; flour \$1.05; lemons and oranges 10 to 15 cents per dozen.  
RED FRONT TRADING CO.

Daniel Williams, at the head of Seventh street stairs, has added a line of patent medicines to his stock of school books, candies, notions, etc., which he sells cheaper than the cheapest.