

of one mine having been bought for \$150,000. Probably \$200,000 of gold was sent out of the county during the year. For the purpose of reaching new placer fields and to furnish power for stamp mills, a company has been organized for the construction of a canal 2 1/2 miles long, the water to be taken from the Upper Rogue river. The lower part of this canal will be from 200 to 400 feet above the valley, and will be a massive waterpower. There is a large area of tillable land adjacent to this canal which will become highly productive under irrigation. The irrigation ditches of the county have been increased so that there are now not less than 150 miles in operation, while the ditches, dunes and pipe lines for mining approximate 100 miles more, 25 miles of which were built in 1899.

Three evidences of unusual prosperity in the county are the number of mortgages paid on the very small number of tax delinquents, the increase of tax delinquents, and the fact that the county has not had a single case of pauperism during the year. Substantial turnpikes have been constructed at several important points, and traveled in such way as to make good winter roads. An important road from Eugene to the coast has been improved, and the Sugar Pine Lumber Company, over which a powerful traction engine hauls from 20,000 to 30,000 feet of lumber each trip. A new bridge was built over the river to accommodate this business, but, as this, as well as the entire road, to open to the public, making an easy route to Port Klamath and Klamath Falls via Crater lake. The cost of the road and bridge was expended on the road and bridge. Besides this lumber enterprise, several mills of small capacity were added during the year, so that the output of the county was over \$400,000 feet of lumber.

Improvements in the Towns. The general prosperity in the rural districts has made a notable improvement on the towns of the valley. This is especially true in Medford, Ashland and Gold Hill. Extensive street improvements and other public works have received attention in Ashland, where the efficiency of her water works and introduced a sewer system; Gold Hill has just completed a fine water and power plant. The aggregate of improvements in the public buildings in the towns would not fall short of \$200,000, yet there is a great demand for room, and rents have materially advanced.

Medford, Or. G. A. GREGORY.

JOSEPHINE COUNTY.

Big Development Certain in Mining and Other Lines. Josephine county kept pace with the march of progress and advancement which characterized the whole state in 1899. There has been a steady, though not a rapid and gradual influx of immigration all through the season, a sort of filtering in of people, without any noticeable rush. Grant's Pass being the county seat and only town of importance in the county, and railroad depot for by far the larger portion, is a reliable register of the state conditions throughout the country. The conditions which prevail in Grant's Pass are true in a greater or less degree of each individual section, village and camp. Grant's Pass had by far the best prosperous business season this year, that it has enjoyed for many years, and the same is true of the smaller towns of Kerby, Waide, Merlin, Leland and Wolf Creek, and every hamlet and country town in the county.

The real estate market is fairly lively, with steadily advancing figures. Almost every house in the town of Grant's Pass is now occupied and houses are being sold at a premium and almost impossible to secure. No more substantial evidence of the prosperity of Grant's Pass could have been presented than the fact that the real estate market, which destroyed the greater part of two blocks on Front street, the burned district having been occupied by between 25 and 30 business houses of great size and beauty, and that the real estate room in the town was immediately pressed into service for the resumption of business by those who had suffered by the fire, even the city hall and council chamber being occupied. These conditions are able to secure rooms erected temporary buildings in which to carry on their business until they could secure a better location. Every one of the property-owners in the burned district is now engaged in erecting or making preparations for rebuilding early next season, so that the middle of next summer will see the gap made by the solidly closed brick and brick structures. As the brick-making season was past, the local yards were unable to supply the sudden demand for brick, and several hundred thousand bricks were shipped to this place from other towns.

The resources and industries of this county are many and varied, and the development of many of them has hardly begun. To understand the industrial conditions which prevail here, it must be remembered that it is a country of mountains and valleys. Most of the best farming land lies in the valleys, and the larger streams, and, generally speaking, the placer mining ground begins where the farming country ends, in following a stream toward its source, as the mountains are close to the mountains. This is not a positive rule, but it generally applies. The mining and the farming lands overlap each other but seldom.

Large Investments in Mines. Probably the leading industry is mining, and extensively followed in both its branches of gold and silver. It is estimated that considerably over \$50,000,000 was expended in the mines of this county in 1899, and it is more than probable that the returns for the season of 1899-1900 will far exceed the entire output. Development in mines in this county this season has not been confined to one or two localities, but has been spread over a large portion of the county, which has always been a large producer, and where some of the most important placer mines are located, probably the largest superannuated mine in the county, the construction of a dredge which will clear an area of rich placer ground, which is too low to be worked by ordinary hydraulic methods. This is a new departure for this section, and will be a more successful method in the future, as there are placer deposits of known richness in different localities which cannot be feasibly worked by other methods. In the Ashland district, the county seat, a new mine is being developed, and a placer property which has produced richly in coarse gold, having been worked only by primitive methods, is being worked by modern hydraulic methods. This district has also been the scene of several important quartz discoveries. On Josephine creek, the scene of the first gold discovery in the county, two large hydraulic plants have been installed and are now in operation. On Six-mile creek, another tributary of the Klamath river, a four-mile ditch of about 100 inches capacity has been completed, and a large hydraulic plant has been taken in and is nearly ready for operation. Several new ditches were constructed during the year, and the county has imported a large body of placer ground, known as the Silver Creek basin, which has been partially prospected, and will probably be opened next season. The Silver Creek basin is not accessible by wagon road, and the last named is probably the most remote district in the county, supplies of all kinds being transported by pack train about 30 miles.

Several important and promising quartz locations were made last year on the headwaters of Briggs and Silver creeks, and are now being developed. On Jump-Off-Joe creek in the eastern part of the county, a three-mile ditch has just been completed, and hydraulic plant and equipment are being transported there. Grace creek is one of the most important mining districts in the county, being the scene of extensive operations in both quartz and placer. Several of the largest placer mines in the county are located in this district, and several new properties have been opened during the season. In this district is situated the Victor, Jr., or Greenback quartz mine, a mine that last season paid for its purchase and equipment in a six months' run. Five additional stamps were added to the mill last season, and prospecting and development work has been carried on all through the season.

In the Wolf creek district, several good quartz locations have been made and partially developed, and one discovery of almost incredible richness. Mount Reuben district has also been largely developed during the past season. The famous Gold Bug quartz mine, which employs about 100 men, is situated in this district.

At Galice, a good deal of both quartz and placer property has changed hands, and many improvements have been inaugurated. A company has been organized for the purpose of working the El Yunque ledge, an immense ore deposit, and operations have been commenced.

Results of Careful Horticulture. The fruit industry in this county is one of much importance. The varied character of the soil gives opportunity for the successful production of every variety of fruit that can be grown in a temperate climate. The fruit industry has suffered somewhat in past years by ill-advised and misdirected procedure in the line of fruit-growing. Proper care was, in many cases, not exercised in the choice of varieties, in the selection of fruit trees, and each succeeding year, for the past few years, has seen the fruit industry put upon a more solid and profitable basis, and market facilities have improved from year to year, and now the fruit business stands upon its merits as a leading and profitable industry. One man in this county received this season over \$3000 from three and one-half acres of peaches. Prunes are a good crop here, and pears do well. Grapes are also a good crop, but the staple, apple, and most important line is winter apples, of which a considerable quantity are shipped from here every year. Small fruits do well, and strawberries and raspberries were shipped quite extensively last spring to northern points. Watermelons are a staple product of the county, and the roads being shipped from here last summer.

The lumber industry has assumed large proportions in the last two years. In 1898, the S. & L. Co., of Grant's Pass, constructed a wagon road, 10 miles long, tapping a large area of timber land known as Swede basin, and last year the whole season was utilized cutting and shipping the lumber. This company has also secured 30 miles of Swede basin, and the lumber which comes from there is of extraordinary quality. This company has also secured a few miles at different localities in the county, and handled the entire output with the exception of that of a few small local mills.

The mill was erected last summer at Provolt, a center for a considerable area of very productive farming country situated on Williams creek and the Applegate, and has been running steadily since last June. There are now two companies organized in Grant's Pass for the manufacture of wool from pine needles, of which there is an abundant supply.

The varied industrial inducements, Josephine county adds an important feature in one of the most perfect climates to be found in temperate regions. While the mercury averages well up the scale in midsummer, the freshness of the atmosphere and the cool nights effectually prevent oppressiveness. The rainfall strikes a happy medium between "wetfoot" and "California" conditions, and is neither too mid, and destructive storms are unknown.

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The development of the resources of this county in 1899 and previous years has been only a beginning, bringing about a better and more judicious application of the scope and the possibilities which are dormant in them. The outlook for this section was never so bright as it is now at the opening of the year 1900.

Grant's Pass, Or. FRED MENSCH.

KLAMATH COUNTY.

Railroad, Forerunner of Agricultural and Commercial Progress. Klamath county is to have a railroad in 1900. With enough of the best agricultural and grazing lands, enough irrigating systems (undeveloped), enough water power and navigable water, and enough soft pine timber to make a million people rich; with enough ducks and geese, rainbow lake and brook trout to make a million sportsmen happy, we have dilled for years with news of hard times, booms and prosperity without knowing them. But we have never had a railroad. We are going to have one, for in November the Oregon Midland Railway Company was incorporated to build a standard-gauge road from Klamath, Cal., to Klamath Falls, Or. The preliminary work was done early in the year, and since incorporating another survey has been started. The contractors expect to start grading early in the spring, and will push the work rapidly. The chief revenue for several years will be from the timber, as the road will tap the magnificent Sitka and soft yellow pine belt lying along Jenny creek, and from 10 to 15 miles north of Klamath hot springs, besides the pine belts west of Upper Klamath lake. There are 6,000,000 feet of pine, besides much fir, cedar, etc. Owing to high prices paid for cattle the past two years there were fewer to be sold this year than usual. Those turned out brought a high price, about \$40 a head for the best steers.

The county has had quite a perceptible increase in population the past year (exclusive of birth), and much more land is now under cultivation than there was 12 months ago. Several small irrigating ditches have been built, large ones enlarged and extended, and a very extensive system of irrigation is being planned and surveyed for the Klamath reservation. Many hundreds of acres of alfalfa were cut this year for the first time, and thousands of fruit trees are now growing to maturity where but two or three years ago the fruit trees in the county could be summed up in three figures.

Barely 10,000 head of cattle were turned out this year, where 100,000 should be. About \$15,000 will cover the wool clip, and it should be \$20,000. Including the logging camp at Snow, east of Jenny creek, the product of which goes to the Klamath (Cal.) mill, the output of lumber is 25,000,000 feet, whereas with a railroad it should be 50,000,000 feet. All of the beef cattle go to railroad points for feeding; none will go when the railroad is built. A few hundred people now live at Crater lake annually, whereas many thousands would visit it if a railroad could bring them to Klamath Falls and a steamboat make the changes to Port Klamath, and such resorts as Pelican Bay, Spring creek, Sprague river, Williamson river and Wood river would become the greatest resorts on the coast.

All of the changes are about to be realized, and easy-going, beautiful Klamath county will wake up to the hum of the hustlers who will come from all points to build up great enterprises and improve a great country.

According to the history of Indian reservations that have been thrown open, Klamath reservation should be opened for settlement between next June and January 1, 1901. The tract is about 1,500,000 acres to be settled upon, divided into agricultural, grazing and timbered lands.

In Klamath Falls, George T. Baldwin has built one of the finest stone buildings ever built in a small town on this coast, and the A. O. U. W. lodge has fitted a beautiful hall and lodgeroom. A bank was opened last year, and Wells, Fargo & Co. have extended their service to this point. The town has just completed a two-story hall, with council chamber on the second floor, and hook and ladder and hose cart room on the first floor. Besides these a great many other buildings have been erected in the town and county.

There are 50 miles of irrigated canals in the county. Klamath Falls has an excellent electric light and water system, two daily mails to and from the railroad, and a daily mail from nearly every town in the county.

The price of real estate has advanced fully 100 per cent in 12 months. More transfers of property were made in 1899 than in any year since 1891. The largest deal was about 10,000 acres of pine land bought by the Bray & Chad Land Co. of Oshkosh, Wis. This land lies chiefly north and west of Parker's station, on the stage road between Klamath Falls and Ashland. The land was taken from Lower Klamath lake last spring, and was used in the summer as a float-boat between Klamath Falls and Fort Klamath. The Oregon, a sternwheel steamer, has also launched on the upper lake now.

Following is a table of statistics for 1899:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Value. Includes: Acres under cultivation, 50,000; Bushels of wheat, 12,300; Bushels of oats, 12,300; Bushels of barley, 12,500; Tons of hay, 40,000; Tons of alfalfa, 6,000; Tons of potatoes, 20,000; Pounds of butter and cheese, 150,000; Bushels of apples, 3,000; Bushels of plums, pears, prunes, etc., 400; Lumber cut, feet, 25,000,000; No. of sheep, 10,000; No. of horses and mules, 2,000; No. of cattle, 20,000; No. of swine, 10,000; Wool produced, 300,000; Population, 3,500.

JOSEPH G. PIERCE, Klamath Falls, Or.

enterprises are far in excess of the store room to be had. By the time another year has passed Lakeview will be an important business center.

Railroad Extension. There are so many different railroad lines pointing this way that it is hard to know which way to look for the coming of the iron horse. It has been asserted that the proposed Oregon Midland, from the southern Pacific main line to Klamath Falls, will, upon the completion to that point, be extended to Lakeview and possibly on to some point east. There is no question about the extension of the Oregon Midland, Nevada, California & Oregon railroad from Amedee. Extension work on that line has been under way for the past year.

Timber Lands. Many Eastern syndicates had representatives here last year looking over the timber lands of the county and making maps and plats of the timber belts. In this county there are thousands of acres of timber land, and the best sugar pine in the world. The building of a railroad into this county would cause the timber-land business to hum.

Take it as a whole, the county is prospering, and the people have no reason to complain of the year 1899. Industrious people have added gold to their coffers, and are correspondingly happy.

Some of Lake's Advantages. Lake county is in the center of the great lake region of Southern Oregon. It is bounded on the south by the California line, on the east by Harney county, on the north by Crook, and on the west by Klamath. The county has an area of 400 square miles. Great lakes are to be found in Oregon, and partly in California. It is 46 miles long, from eight to 20 miles wide, and from 13 to 40 feet deep, and is navigable for vessels of considerable tonnage. The only body of water to be found in the United States. The other principal lakes are Warner, Albert, Summer and Silver lakes. The lakes, like the beautiful rivers and streams, are empty into them, abound with fish.

The principal valleys of Lake county are Goose lake, North and South Warner, Chewaucum, Summer and Silver lakes. These valleys are an area of hundreds of square miles, and are very productive. All the soils of Lake county are productive when properly cultivated. The best crops are very rich, and produce abundant crops of alfalfa and native grasses for hay, and also fine timothy and other tame grasses, as well as fine crops of cereals and vegetables of mountainous variety. The hills and rolling lands produce fine agricultural crops. There is no body of land, occupied or unoccupied, in Lake county that is farther than 10 miles from a river.

BEACH & M'GARREY, Lakeview, Or.

LANE COUNTY.

Mineral Development Receiving More Attention Than for Many Years. During the year 1899 a good many immigrants, mostly farmers and substantial business people, settled in Lane county. They are quite evenly distributed over the county. Eugene and the central portion of the county in the valley between the Cascade and Coast ranges, the best, but a good many have settled along the small streams in the mountains and in the lumbering camps at Saguinaw and in the Mohawk valley. In proportion to the whole number, the population has increased more, perhaps, in the Bohemia and Blue River mining districts than elsewhere.

There are about twice as many people in the Bohemia mines as there were a year ago.

No marked changes have taken place in agricultural development during the year, but some progress has been made. Some new land has been brought under cultivation. New farm buildings and fences appear here and there, and there has been a gradual and steady increase in farming interests and products. There was a fair yield of wheat, oats, corn, hops, potatoes and vegetables of all kinds. Some damage was done to grain in the fields, before the harvest was completed, by unusual rains in August.

Mining Development. For more than 20 years, gold, silver, lead, copper, quicksilver and other valuable ores and minerals have been known to exist in the Cascade and Calapoopa mountains on all sides of Mount Bohemia, which is the summit of the ridge separating Lane and Douglas counties, and northward in the Cascade range through the eastern part of Lane county and beyond into Harney and Marion counties. Very little has been done to develop these mines until recently. After a little prospecting in the quartz ledges the claimants would abandon them and others would take them up and follow in their footsteps. During 1899 more was done in the way of prospecting and developing these quartz ledges and establishing their richness and value as producers of gold than all the previous 20 years. Numerous companies are now working in the Bohemia mines, covering as far as now located an area of about 10 miles square, about one-half in Lane and one-half in Douglas county. Some of the mines are owned and controlled

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house has been built in Eugene. It was commenced in 1888 and finished in 1898. It is constructed of stone, brick, iron and glass, with wooden finishings, is lighted with electricity, has a large clock that strikes the hours in the cupola, is furnished with all the modern improvements and conveniences, and cost about \$50,000. A new building for the university of Oregon is being constructed by the state on the University campus, in the eastern suburbs of Eugene, to be completed on or before January 1, 1900. A large saw mill is being constructed by the Booth-Kelly Company in the Mohawk valley, to furnish lumber for export by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. The same company has extensive saw mills at Saguinaw, on the line of the Southern Pacific railroad, five miles from Cottage Grove, and has furnished large quantities of lumber for export during the present year.

New Railroads and Wagon Roads. A new railroad is being constructed as rapidly as possible and will soon be completed from the Southern Pacific line at Springfield to the upper end of the Mohawk valley, a distance of about 20 miles, to bring out lumber from the large saw mills now being erected there by the Booth-Kelly Company, representing California capitalists. The county and also the city of Eugene have each purchased a large rock crusher, and have done some valuable work during the year in grading and macadamizing roads throughout the county and the principal streets of Eugene. A good road 20 miles up a steep mountain 500 feet high or more has

been cut, part of the distance through solid rock from the head of the Coast Fork into the Bohemia mines, at a cost of about \$300,000. The principal part of which was paid by the Booth-Kelly Company, and the balance by Lane county. A wagon road has also been made from the McKenzie river to the Blue river mines, at a cost of several hundred dollars, all or nearly all paid by the miners.

H. R. KINCAID, Eugene, Or.

LINCOLN COUNTY.

People Enjoying the Greatest Prosperity Ever Known to Them. Lincoln county was created by the legislature in 1851, of territory detached from Benton and Tillamook counties. It is bounded on the north by Tillamook county, on the east by Benton and its western boundary is the Pacific ocean. Its coast line is 140 miles long, and its population of about 6000. Lincoln county lies on the Pacific ocean, about midway on the Oregon coast. Its coast line is broken by four bays—Yaquina, Alsea, Siletta and Salmon—each of which has numerous tributaries that drain the surrounding country. Yaquina, the largest of the four, breaks the coast line nearly in the center of the county, north and south. The entrance to the bay affords plenty of water for coasting steamers, the government having spent about \$600,000 on the harbor. The water is very deep, and the depth of water on the bar from 10 to 25 feet at high tide.

Of the 33 counties of Oregon, Lincoln is the youngest, except Wheeler. None can claim a greater variety of natural resources than Lincoln. Being a coast county, it does not claim to be a grain-producing county. During 1899 the county received a fair share of the immigration to Oregon. The settlers from the States of the Dakotas and Minnesota, and have settled principally near Toledo. As a rule, they go right to work improving their lands and purchasing good milk cows. They are patrons of our creameries. There is an active demand for stock and dairy ranches.

Lincoln county is not classed as a mining county, although for 50 miles and down the coast line the placer mines on the beach are worked each season, and give employment to many settlers along the coast. The county is rich in material prosperity was never better, as the farmers have received good prices for all products of the farm and dairy, and for all kinds of livestock.

Opening the Stone Quarries. As to new industrial enterprises, they are naturally slow, chiefly because of the fact that the new industries in the Stevens White Sand Rock Quarry, recently developed by Portland capital. This company has spent several thousand dollars in building a trolley car and sidetracks from the C. & E. R. R. to the quarry, and has, since July, employed a large force of men. The owners say they have made a large profit on their rock in the San Francisco market. The rock is of the same quality as the famous Pioneer white sand stone quarry, which has an established reputation for being the best rock of the Pacific coast.

The Toledo creamery, built and operated by home capital, began operations early in May, and has been running regularly since. It is the first of the kind in the county, and its output of butter, which is sold for the highest market price. This butter has taken first premium at the state fair. The owners expect to place a similar factory elsewhere in the county, and otherwise enlarge their plant the coming season.

The resources of the county consist of dairying, stockraising, quarrying of building stone, and the raising of wool and mutton. As there are many thousands of acres of government lands yet unsettled, the county offers good inducements to homesteaders.

Many improvements were made in 1899, consisting of the clearing of brush lands and the building of farmhouses and barns. In Toledo, the county seat, several new blocks of streets have been laid out, improved and graded, and a county court built a large, up-to-date courthouse, with all modern conveniences. A number of new roads have been opened up, and labor and money expended upon them.

The fishing industry is a source of considerable income to our people. As the seasons do not open until after harvest, farmers rely upon employment in this industry. The output for the season just closed was, in round numbers, 18,000 cases of fresh salmon, and 3,000 pounds of dried salmon, and 200,000 pounds of trout. Four hundred tons of chittim bark was shipped during the season, for which 25 cents per pound was received by the shippers.

Farmers shipped about 1000 head of cattle, at an average price per head of \$20. Extensive manufactures are not carried on in Lincoln county, but there is a large water-power of sufficient volume above Toledo and on the Siletts river to operate many mills.

The timber interests of the county are dependent upon the source of much wealth. The middle portion of the county through which the railroad runs is what is known as the burnt district, and naturally gives the traveler the impression that there is no timber in the county. But such is not the fact. In the south end of the county are large bodies of fir and spruce timber. In one body there is 12,000 acres, owned by Michigan capitalists, which will in the near future make arrangements to place the products of this green forest upon the markets of the world. On what was up to 1880, sheep raising was carried on in the county. There are many thousands of acres of fine saw timber. About 20,000 acres of the great body of fir and spruce timber is tributary to the Yaquina bay, and a large body of timber is situated on the head of tide will reach this timber. The remainder would, by reason of the hills between the two bays, necessarily be tributary to the Siletts bay.

Siletts Valley Land in Demand. The Corvallis & Eastern Railroad has its terminus at Yaquina, this county. It is operating 150 miles of road, running through Lincoln, Benton, Linn and Marion counties into the heart of the Cascade mountains. From the Cascade the road has been surveyed and located to an eastern connection with some transcontinental line, which, when completed, will open up the great inland empire of the Pacific coast. The route is a direct route to the sea for the products of this rich country. Then Yaquina will be a seaport of importance, and it will control the trade of the entire Oregon coast, as well as that of the Southeastern States.

Our agricultural production will be largely in excess of that formerly ob-

tain by the producers under the old system of butter-making on the farm. The effect of this has been to cause the farmers to increase and improve their herds with especial attention to large percentages of butter fat, and disposing of those strains of stock not fitted for dairying. Last year over \$25,000 was received for stock raised and sold in Lincoln county.

No new railroads were constructed during this year, but the service on those we have had been greatly improved, giving our people ample facilities and easy methods of communication at reasonable rates of fare and transportation for their freight.

Many new orchards have been planted, the large returns received from those now bearing demonstrating that fruit raising in this locality has long since passed its experimental stage. The output of nursery stock of top quality during the year was over 100,000 trees. Linn county farmers have attracted favorable notice wherever exhibited on account of their size, as well as for the delicate flavor possessed by them.

Our most urgent need is for more people to settle and improve our rich lands. The industrious agriculturist or stockraiser need have no doubt that he will realize an abundant return on his labor, with all the advantages that accrue from living and rearing his family in the midst of a peaceful and highly civilized community, where plenty reigns and peace and contentment prevail.

C. B. WINN, Albany, Or.

RECAPITULATION.

Total exports of Pacific Coast ports for the sixteen years ended June 30, 1899. \$ 760,586,078

Total imports of Pacific Coast ports for the sixteen years ended June 30, 1899. 727,194,990

Total commerce. \$1,487,781,068

Note—There have been no imports into nor exports from Yaquina district, Oregon, since 1894.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY CUSTOMS DISTRICTS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, SINCE 1884.

Table with 10 columns: Year, Portland, Astoria, Coos Bay, Puget Sound, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Humboldt Bay. Each column has two sub-columns for Imports and Exports.

Imports Exports

1884..... \$ 4,233,488 \$ 657,145

1885..... 1,248,110 177,338

1886..... 1,258,386 217,389

1887..... 1,258,386 217,389

1888..... 1,258,386 217,389

1889..... 1,258,386 217,389

1890..... 1,258,386 217,389