## THE MORNING OREGONIAN, MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 1900.

The flour manufactured dur ach 50,000 barrels enjoy a good local trade, and vely to China and Japan. cture of lumber is not an t factor. There are millions of good, merchantable timber yet and each locality has its mill. re but few mills, however, which aport more or less. The finished

owing statistics fairly represent

650,000

20,000

600,000

500,000

100,000 75,000 13,000 9,000

150,000

.8,951

2.042

vation, acres ml bushels nd rye, annual bushels. F #163 rn rais ese. Ibs. for market ... blos est bornthe first and os raised

500,000 50,000 .12,000,000 ctured, feet. armers and breeders generally are ap-clating the value of raising standardstock, and this county can now of excellent dairy herds as compared those of five years ago. The Angoat has become a great factor in class, as he provides a high-priced and acts as undergrowth destroyer as In horses, breeding has lately been ned to registered Percherons and escales. The latest assessment gives following summary of stock totals:

and Angoras

wing to the unprecedented demand of stock during the year just closed been large for butchering purposes. ling for dairy purposes, however, d that for the block.

to the county's surface, there is the tte valley formation-plain, ev and hill. Numerous small streams rd plenty of water. Railway facilities good, the Southern Pacific tapping unty with two lines-the Portlandbranch and the Portland-Sheriline

population is now about 16,000, but ble that number could at once find ble room for farming and dairying. ment. The old high values for farm s have disappeared, and the man modest means can find a home here out requiring a fortune. Perhaps 100 ds have families have settled here during the t year, the purchases being 40 and 80homes in the main, cleared and

sboro, the county seat, with a popun of about 1400, and Forest Grove, sity, population 1200, are the counchief cities. Each has water works electric lights, and each is connectwith Portland by good wagon roads by rail. Nearly one-half of the farm-population can make Portland, with oad, and return, in a day, thus in-The county school work is didly organized, and much of this ubtiess due to the fact that the Pauniversity, one of the oldest and sents of learning, is an institution in the county.

nking into consideration its soil, its cols and its closeness to the North-His Washington county preattractions to hon Diff. spi L A LONG.

aboro, Or. WASCO COUNTY. e Dalles Receives Shipments of Wool From Four Pacific States. aseo county originally comprised a

itory considerably larger than all our wly-acquired possessions in the Pacific. sluded all the country lying between bia river and California and be-

being several fine mills located the county is Hood River valley. Its re-sources are described in another column and need no remarks here. From Hood River eastward, for a distance of 40 miles, the country on both sides of the Columbia, to a distance of three or four miles back from its banks, is unexcelled for the pro-duction of peaches, grapes, apricots and all the more tender fruits and vegetables. Here the night temperature, during the ripening season, is higher than that of any other district north of California, Here berries and garden vegetables mature two weeks earlier than in any other part of annually amounts to 12,000,000

the Northwest. The cherries of this section were justly mistaken at the world's fair for peach plums, and an old and ex-prienced German winemaker has often as-

sured the writer that the grapes raised here are equal to the best he has ever seen in the Rhineland. No estimate of this year's crop of fruit in The Dailes' dis-trict is available. It is only certain that it fell below the average, for the grape and peach crop. In common with that of the whole country, fell much below the average. The estimates for last year showed that the shipments from The Dalles of apples, pears, prunes, strawberries, blackberries, dried fruits and garden vegetables realized to the producers the snug sum of \$110,000

Stock Interests Highly Prosperous. The sheep and wool industry claims an important place in a record of the resources of Wasco county, although the business is slowly being restricted by the encroachment of the agriculturist. The number of sheep in the county, according to the report of the county stock in-spector, is 166,851. The wool clip for the past season was rather lighter than usual, on account of an unusually pro-tracted and severe preceding winter, but reached and severe precently which, but reached, notwithstanding, the neighbor-hood of 1,250,000 pounds. The price, how-ever, was more than 25 per cent above that of 1558, and it is doubtful if the sheepmen of Wasco county were ever in a more prosperous condition than they are at this moment. Wool that in the panicky times of 1893 to 1897 was hard to market at 5 to 8 cents a pound sold read-lly at from 11 to 15 cents. Stock sheep

that were a drug in those years at \$1.25 a head are now worth more than double that sum. The cattle business has materially di

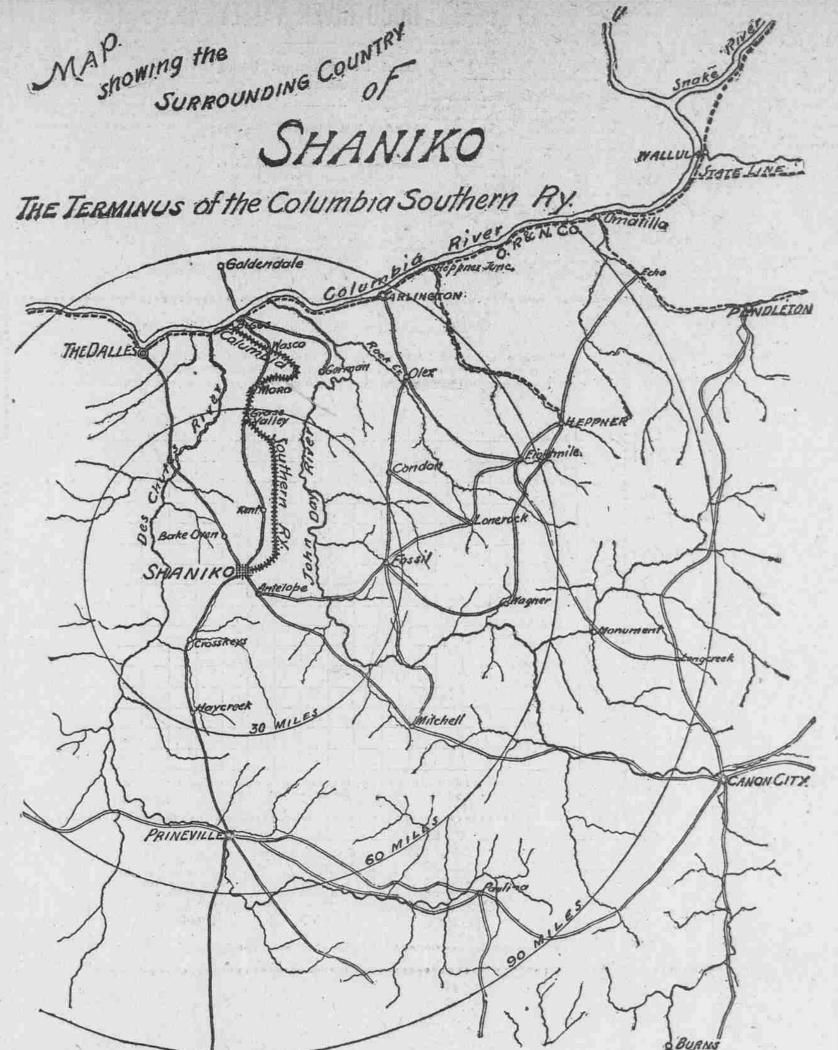
nimished since the practical disappearance of the bunchgrass and the opening of the ranges to cultivation. The total number of cattle in the county can hardly exceed 10,000. Their value may be judged from the fact that on December 1

iocal butchers were paying from \$3 60 to \$3 75 per hundred for range steers, and contracts for early spring delivery have been made at \$5 25 to \$5 50. With steers at \$40 to \$70 a head, mutton sheep at \$3 50 to \$5, and wool at 15 cents a pound, the stockman of Wasco county lose little sleep worrying over beef trusts and com-

binations of buyers. The lumbering business has just begun to receive the attention it deserved Wasco county has over 800 square miles, or more than 500,000 acres, of timber lands But the larger portion is included in the forest reserve, or is not available by any existing method of transportation. The trees are almost exclusively coniferous and they are equal to the best of their class in the world. Hitherto only three or four small mills in the neighborhood of Hood River have cut lumber for export, but during the past year the Lost Lake Lumbering Company, a firm of wealthy capitalists from Minnesota, who wn a large body of timber in the Lost Lake district, have erected a mill at the confluence of the Columbia and Hood rivers, with a capacity of 250,000 feet a

day. The Hood River Lumbering Com pany, another concern backed by large capital, has completed a boom at the mouth of Hood river, and has started a steam logging outfit on their 2000 acres of virgin forest near the head of Hood River valley. The logs will be driven to the mouth of Hood river, where the company contemplates the erection of a mil of 250,000 feet capacity, besides supplying logs to other mills along the Columbia

E. W. Winans contemplates the erection of a large mill near the forks of Hood river, which will make a specialty of cutting railroad ties. Devenport Bros have two smaller mills in the same neighborhood, from whence they flume their lumber to the Columbia. These include all the export mills in the county. They



The line would also tap the rich gold on December 1 at The Dalles market: It derives its name from the "Narrows" west of Shaniko. From thence to The nines recently discovered in the neighbor-bood of Trout creek, Crook county, and Creamery butter, 30 cents a pound; choice dairy, 25 cents. Eggs, 30 cents a dozen-they a little east of the city, which obstruct river navigation eastward. The O. R. & N. Co. gives the city connection with all Dalles, a distance of 50 miles, one single, expensive tollroad carried the bulk of all the traffic of a territory nearly as large as the states of Vermont and New Hampmight one day extend southward to Callhave averaged 25 cents for the year. chickens, 15 cents a pound; points east and west, and a fleet of powshire. That the future traffic of all this dressed turkeys, 17 cents; dressed ducks, erful and beautiful steamers belonging to Companies Delving for Coal. 65 to 75 cents; geese, \$1 50 to \$2 each. Po-tatoes, 75 cents a sack. Cabbage, 2 cents The Dalles, Portland & Astoria Naviga-tion Company, and chiefly owned by the territory will find its. meeting-place at Shaniko is beyond any reasonable doubt. The little that can be said of Wasco ounty's mineral development is big with 1. pound. Onlons, 1½ cents. Honey, 13 cents a pound. Apples, \$1 to \$1 50 a box. Pork (live weight) 4½ cents a pound. people of The Dalles, gives the city the The town will be the southern terminus benefit of terminal rates and river compe-tition to Portland and all points westof the Columbia Southern railroad, and as the extension of this road farther into promise. The ideal conditions for the exstence of coal in the neighborhood of The Dalles have long been noted by geologists After deducting from these prices any easonable profit for the merchant and ward. the interior would be enormously expensive and will not be justified for many years by any certain hope of increased and men skilled in this particular line of The mercantile establishments of The mineralogy, and the numerous croppings that have been discovered during the past Dalles would do credit to towns of 10 times middleman, and calling to mind the prices already quoted for beef, mutton and wool, is it any wonder that when the writer its population, and a very large wholesale and retail business is done with the intraffic, Shaniko will, in all probability, long remain the terminus. Everything that men and money can do is being done 20 years have placed its existence beyond reasonable doubt. Three companies, each terior. The town has unsurpassed ware-house facilities, and, through its bankers asked the Hon. Robert Mays, county judge amply provided with means, are making to have the road completed to Shaniko by the end of March, and the contractor of this county, and extensively engaged earnest efforts to settle the question. One in farming, stockraising and merchandisand merchants, abundance of capital to of them has been at work for nearly three has bound himself in a \$50,000 forfeit to ing, what should be told The New Year's utilize its natural advantages. It is the have it completed by the first of May. At the earliest possible moment in the coming spring, materials of all kinds will be hauled to the townsite and the erecyears, and is at present tunneling into a Oregonian as to the prosperity of the best wool market in the Northwest, and untain near the railroad track at Crate's county during the past year, his answer handles more wool direct from the growpoint, but the reticence of all concerned was: "Tell The Oregonian it has been the most prosperous year the people of Wasers than any town in the United States. bars any report of progress. The last to engage in the work are Seufert Bros., the This will appear no empty boast when it tion of necessary buildings pushed with is said that from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 pounds co county have ever known"? The only shadow on this picture is the present low price of wheat, which, however, is in well-known cannerymen, who have leased are annually shipped here from first hands and find a market here. Wool is shipped all vigor. The railroad company will erect a substantial depot and general office buildings, besides car and repair shops, the lands of B. F. Laughlin and started a diamond drill to work on the bank of the no sense ruinous, as the cost of raising to this market from the state of Idaho on Columbia. These gentlemen, who have turned everything they have touched durwheat is only from 25 to 30 cents a bushel, and what is over this is profit. The roundhouse, coal bunkers and sandnouse. the east, from Washington on the north It is estimated that about 30 dwellingand from counties in Eastern Oregon that border on California. And yet, strange as ing the past 20 years into gold, assure the Wasco county farmer is not selling his wheat at 47 cents, for the very sufficient houses will be needed for the employes of writer that they will continue the work they have begun until success crowns their the railroad company alone. The Shaniko Warehouse Company, composed of D. M. It may appear, there is not a woolen mill nor scouring mill, nor mill of any kind to work on this immensity of raw material reason that he is able to hold it in hope of a better price. Wasco county farmers were never much in debt, and releases of and J. W. French, the well-known bankefforts, or they are convinced there is no ers, and W. Lord and B. F. Laughlin coal to be found, or, at least, not found within the limits of the county. capitalists, of The Dalles, and W. H. and H. A. Moore, bankers, of Moro and Gold-The school facilities of The Dalles are unsurpassed, and the benefits of a good, in paying quantites, mortgages for the year, although relative-The only authentic discovery in the line of the precious metals during the past year ly large, make no important showing, but, endale, have already let the contract for an iron and steel warehouse, in size 80 common school education are obtainable everywhere in the county. The larger reas indicating their confidence in the presis located about 20 miles south of The ent and hopefulness for the future, it may Dalles, a little east of Mount Hood. Seven be told that of every 10 mortgages given quarts ledges and 60 acres of placers have by farmers, nine of them are for the by 300 feet. The size of the warehouse is ligious denominations are well represented, justified by the fact that fully three-fourths of the wool and general merchanand there are few districts that do not enjoy the privilege of a weekly service. The people are peaceable, law-abiding, purchase of more land. The crop prospects for 1900 are unusuen located. The surface rock assays \$56 dise heretofore handled at The Dalles will be handled here. This means an annual aggregate of 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 pounds of though undeveloped, are very promising, ally bright. We have had unusually The Hood River Gold & Silver Mining heavy rains. The ground is thoroughly Company, composed of capitalists of The soaked, and fail wheat in many places contented and industrious, and in intelli-gence and culture, according to their stawool, and anywhere from 2,000,000 to 3,000.tion, will not suffer in comparison with 000 pounds of general freight. The Shan-iko Townsite Company, composed of the Dalles, own the discoveries, and will com- stands from six to ten inches high. The mence extensive development work on grass on every hill is greener than it ever stands from six to ten inches high. The those of any other district on the conti-HUGH GOURLAY. nent gentlemen already mentioned and E. C. The Dalles, Or. was known to be, and all kinds of stock Pease, of Pease & Mays, of The Dalles; A. E. Hammond, chief engineer of the Cogo into the winter in prime condition. Taking it for all in all it would be hard NEW TOWN OF SHANIKO. lumbia Southern, and F. T. Hurlburt, cashier of the Arlington National bank, of Arlington, Or., have arranged to erect been shipped, at various times, to Port- to find a more desirable climate than that of Wasco county. A more healthy one is to be found nowhere. From S. L. Brooks, Southern Terminus of Columbia Southern Railroad. here the largest stockyards north of Oakspecial weather observer for The Dalles district, we learn that the mean average land, Cal. Of the 5000 cars of livestock annually shipped from Huntington and Shaniko is the name of a new town in temperature for the past 24 years was 52.9, the southeastern part of Wasco county, Ontario, not to speak of hundreds of car-load lots shipped from The Dalles, Arthe mean maximum 62.2, and the mean near what was long an important sta-So far this fall the therminimum 42.2. tion on the main wagon road between lington, Heppner and Pendleton, it is exmometer touched 34 only once, on the night The Dalles and Canyon City, known as pected that 3000 carloads will be of November 22. The snowballs are in bloom in The Dalles gardens, and tomato Cross Hollows. The name is not Indian, from Shaniko. All roads from the great stock ranges of the interior lead to Shanand takes a polish like granite. It as might be supposed, but is the Ameriplants and other tender vegetation are canized patronymic of a former honored German resident named Scherneckan, iko. For hundreds of miles south the scarcely yet (December 1) affected by the country is open, and water and grass are winter frosts. On Thanksgiving day (Nowhom his neighbors, in defiance of all Teutonic orthography, persisted in call-ing by the name adopted for the new everywhere abundant. Besides, Shaniko vember 30) the writer picked a big bunch of delicious white muscat grapes, that were hard and fast on their parent is the natural, and in most cases the only, shipping point for all Crook county, all Western Grant county, Wheeler county, Best Year in Wasco's History. town. Shaniko has as yet no place on any map of Oregon. The townsite comstem, in the garden of a neighbor. The climate of Wasco county is remarkably Northern Lake and Malheur, and Southany map of oregon. The townside town pany was only incorporated a couple of months ago, too late to do more than grade a few of the principal streets be-fore the winter frosts and prepare for laying the foundation for a pumping sta-tion for the water works. But the pre-detion is confidently made that before eastern Wasco, and it is no unimportant equable. Summer glides so imperceptibly thing to say that there is never so much into the lap of winter and winter in turn as a single tollroad leading to the town into summer that the dividing line between One of the largest general merchandising the seasons can hardly be traced. We have concerns in Eastern Oregon will have a branch house here, and several other only two seasons, the wet and the dry. But the wet season is not wholly wet, diction is confidently made that before large concerns contemplate making Shannor the dry season wholly dry. The cold of winter is of short duration, and the The Oregonian publishes its annual for 1901 Shaniko will be the livelfest town of iko their headquarters. Pease & Mays. of The Dalles, who do an enormous busiheat of summer is never injurious, and ness with the interior, will make Shan-iko their future headquarters for this trade, and among the first buildings to its size, or of any size, in Eastern Oregon. seldom oppressive. We have no sunstrokes Shaniko is in no sense a boom town. It is the child of necessity. Certain lines and few frostbites, and, with abundant, vigorous and health-giving breezes from than by outsiders. The Wasco of business are bound to go there, and the townsite incorporators, most of whom have large and conflicting interests elsebe erected will be an immense iron and Pacific, neither cyclones, tornadoes blizzards nor anything even remotely the steel structure to accommodate their busi-ness. It is altogether probable that all nor allied to them. The average annual prewhere, have simply yielded to the inevi-table and determined to follow the busi-ness to its new home. To any one accipitation at The Dalles is about 16 inches. the larger business concerns of Antelope, an important trading point about six miles distant, may move to Shaniko for In the great wheat belt south of The Dalles it is about 20 inches, while in the quainted with the topography of Eastern self-protection, just as the business of Hood river valley, which lies nearer to the summit of the Cascades, it is 25 Oregon it is not necessary to state that the lines of communication, whether by Cross Hollows 20 years ago moved to Antelope for the same reason. A substan-tial brick bank building is among the inches. rall or wagon, almost of necessity follow certain well-defined routes. Thus for all time past the bulk of all the traffic be-Progress of The Dalles. earliest improvements contemplated, and a bank will be established with abund-The county seat is The Dalles, which has a population of about 5000. It is pleasthan from \$50 to \$100 an acre. time past the bulk of all the traine be-tween the interior of Eastern Oregon and the head of navigation on the Middle Co-lumbia has been carried over two wagon roads that meet at Bakeoven, a few miles antly situated on the south bank of the were superior in flavor and texture known as the Agency plain, which in-cludes a territory of unbroken wheat lands is and most prosperous fruit belts in two-thirds as large as all Sherman county. If we quote the retail price that prevailed land, and 212 miles from the river's mouth.

town with abundance of water, and the townsite company has already contracted for a 60-horsepower engine, bollor and pump, with a capacity of 400 gallons per minute. The receiving system at the Hol-lows, half a mile from the townsite, will have a capacity of 100,000 gallons, and the distributing system a temporary capacity of 50,000 gallons. The same power will be used to supply the town with electric lights.

Among the numerous natural advantages of Shaniko, not the least important is the fact that it is less than a score of miles distant from the Trout creek gold and silver mines, that are to be rec among the most promising on the Pacific coast. The Oregon King mine, that re-cently changed hands at \$100,000, not long since shipped three carloads of ore to the Tacoma smelter, which, after paying for smelting and freight charges over 70 miles smelting and freight charged miles of rail, of wagoh road and about 300 miles of rail, netted to the owners \$25 a ton, or \$165 a ton, gross. Another mine in the same neighborhood has rock that assays 300 to the ton in gold and 429 ounces of sliver. As a railroad terminal, Shaniko reaches farther into the interior of Eastern Ore-gon than any other town. It will need ex-tensive hotel accommodations, livery stables and feed yards, and the men first on the ground with these necessities are cer-tain to have all the business they can attend to. To meet the demand that is sure to arise for feed for freight teams that will load and unload here, the ware-house company has purchased nearly all the surplus hay in Sherman county.

The town is laid out into 30 blocks of 12 lots each, 50x100 feet. The business streets are 100 feet, and the residence streets 80 feet in width. The site is on a plain that slopes gently toward the north-east, in line with the prevailing winds. It is about 2500 feet above sea level, and commands an extensive view in all direc-tions. From any part of the town eight perpetual snow peaks are visible, namely: Mounts Rainier, Adams and St. Helens, in Washington, and Mounts Hood, Jefferson and the Three Sisters, in Oregon. No accurate data of the climate and tempera-ture are available, but old settlers assure the writer that the thermometer seldom touches zero, that the winters are usually short, and, on account of exposure to the warm chinook winds, snow seldom lies on the ground for more than a few days at a time. The moderate elevation of the townsite secures it against oppressive heat in summer, and, with abundance of pure air, the best facilities in the world for drainage, and abundance of pure, cool, living water. Shaniko ought to make an ideally healthy town. Keep your eye on Shaniko. Nature has done everything in its power to make a prosperous town there, and the owners of the townaite, who are numbered among the richest men in Eastern Oregon, will do the rest.

# YAMHILL COUNTY.

Immigration of 1899 the Largest Since the County Was Settled.

Yamhill county, like most of her neighbors, experienced, in 1899, a most excep-tional year. The spring opened late, but with bright prospects for an enormous yield of grain. A large crop matured, but with it came rain, which vastly lessened the opportunity to reap and thresh the crop, and the result was much grain damaged. A freeze, in February, practically annihilated the budding prune, one of the largest factors of the fruit industry. The crop of hops was excellent and was reasonably well harvested, though some damage was done by rain. The potato crop was unexampled, but about one third of it yet remains in the ground, and may not be gathered until spring.

The crop of wheat is estimated by the best judges at 1,000,000 bushels, twothirds of which is believed to be still in the possession of growers, who are holding for better prices. The hop crop is estimated at 5000 bales, of which about one-fifth has been sold. Fifty thousand pounds of mohair was produced in Yam-hill county last year. This is a growing industry. The product commands a price ranging from 25 cents to 35 cents a pound The goat thrives in Yambill county, and is very useful in the clearing of land. The county ranks among the first in the state in the number of goats. The wool

n the Rocky mountains on the east d the Cascade mountains on the west. of it have been carved almost the enstate of Idaho, several large counties Wyoming and Il counties in Eastern on. And yet it may be mentioned, as illustration of the rapid changes that e works in a relatively short period. re lives not far from The Dalles, in vigorous and healthy age that can ely be called old, a man who was constable of all this territory when was simply a precinct of Clackamas The county is now limited to ds. at 2540 square miles in the extreme hwestern part of what is known as tern Oregon and of this area about square miles are in the Warm Springs an reservation. At a rough estimate, it one-third of the county proper is red with timber, chiefly yellow and te plus and red and yellow fir, with sional patches of tamarack and cedar rest of the county is principally rollprairie and level plains, intersected the Deschutes river and its tributar-and the tributaries of the John Day, ch form numerous valleys of amazing tillty and beauty. he soll on all the higher levels is of

anic origin. It is remarkably rich in the essential elements of plant food, is molsture with remarkable tenacity is almost as easily worked as an ash Twenty-five years ago, the entire country was covered with bunchas, and cultivation was attempted only favored spots along the alluvial bot-The few and scattered settlers were ast exclusively devoted to the raising porses, cattle and sheep, and many doubted that the bunchgrass usly . as would ever have any value for the duction of cereals. The experience of re than a score of years has demonbeyond cavil that these lands ik high among the richest grain lands on continent. A total failure of crops never been known in Wasco county, after, in many cases, twenty years of sant sowing to wheat, and in spite a short period of unfavorable weather the grain was maturing, the wheat ut for the past season was the largest r known. Lands that have never had of artificial stimulant, when erly cultivated and sown in the fail illy early to get a good start be-e winter frosts can be safely ed on to yield from 30 to 40 bushels wheat to the acre and oftener 40 hels than 30. The average yield of fall winter wheat for the past season I am assured, fully 25 bushels to ore. Wheat ranks as the great staple duct of the county, and the industry capable of considerable expansion, esly in outlying districts, where better ties are had for hauling it to market and oats yield abundantly, but do they more than meet the local The wheat crop of the past sea and. probably exceeded 1.250,000 bushels, valley lands, where irrigation is posreward the husbandman with crops of timothy, clover, alfalfa,

### Wasco Fruit Unexcelled.

ts and vegetables.

ruits and berries of all kinds grow e to a perfection reached in only few es on the continent. The largest apat the world's fair, with the whole ed States competing, were raised

a short distance of the county seat co county, and in every competing of the fruits of the Pacific North-Wasco county has practically carried in the honors there were to carry. A and a diploma granted by the id's fair commissioners; testify that of the apples exhibited at the big fair

nd other Rocky mountain states, as in states bordering on the Missourl river. A dozen smaller mills scattered over the county supply the local demand. fornia. Extension of Railway Lines.

Wasco county has within its boundaries

or along its borders sufficient water power running to waste to drive the machinery of a nation. Not to speak of the Columbia river, which bounds the county for nearly 60 miles on the north, we have the Deschutes, which discharges probably more than 500,000 cubic inches of water per second, 'and Hood river which discharges 120,000 cubic inches per econd. Along the banks of these rivers there are scores of ideal sites for mills for the generation and transmission of ower. The beautiful fails of White oower. iver, a little over 20 miles on an air ne from The Dalles, have power sufficlent to drive all the machinery in the ounty, and are as available as if spe-ially placed there for that purpose. Irrigation, chiefly for domestic puroses and for gardening and berry culure, has contributed much to the wealth and comfort of many sections of Wasco county. Hood river valley has three ir-

righting systems, which were built at a ost of \$50,000. The Wamic settlement has three ditches, that furnish water for the purposes just named, for probably 100 families. Juniper Flat, a fine body of level land in the southern part of the county, of about 150 square miles in ex-tent, has long and anxiously waited the completion of a half-finished canal that originally intended to flume lumber to the Deschutes, besides furnishing water to the settlers. Work on this canal was suspended during the panic of 1853, on account of the failure of its constructors, but it is understood that the settlers have inititaed legal proceedings to enforce its completion or have the charter of the company forfeited, in order to the completion of the work by a syndicate of the settlers. For the benefit of Eastern readers of The Oregonian, it may be said that water is never used in Eastern Oregon to irrigate cereal crops. The best grain is invariably raised on the uplands, where irrigation is neither practicable nor desirable. Even the irriga-tion of fruit trees is seldom resorted to, and is generally considered of doubtful expediency. But garden vegetables and perries and timothy and alfalfa meadows, when judiclously supplied with water, yield enormously, while the beautifying of the homes of the settlers with shade trees is best accomplished through a libaral use of water.

Much desultory work has been done to improve our public highways, but much remains to be done. The air is full of of rallway projects, and before the lifes of May have come the Columbia Southern will have extended its line through Sherman county to the new town of Shaniko, in the southeastern portion of Wasco county, and 50 miles from the county seat. The same company has surveyors in the field locating a line from The Dalles to Tygh valley, by way of Dufur and Kingsley that will tap all the

great wheat belts of the county. Still an-other road, intended to bring The Dalles into connection with nearly all Southeastern Oregon, is earnestly talked of. This line is to follow the Deschutes and tap Crook county at the mouth of Trout creek, a few miles west of Cross Keys, Provision has been made for a preliminary survey, and before this appears in print the surveyors will be in the field. If this road should be built, besides the immense traffic it is certain to control from exist-ing industries, it will open to settlement the extensive stretch of tableland south Warm Springs Indian reservation of the known as the Agency plain, which in-cludes a territory of unbroken wheat lands

to the ton in gold, and the placers, althem in the spring. Extensive beds of very pure silica abound in the Moster neighborhood. Numerous carload lots have land, and thousands of tons could be sold in the East if satisfactory rates could be obtained. While boring for coal near The Dalles some time ago, the diamond drill went through 40 feet of magnetic iron. W. R. Winans reports having discovered a large body of cyanite or cyanite quartz near the forks of Hood river. The rock splits and break "true," is of dark-bluish is said to be finely adapted to dimension work, as well as mantels, monuments and similar uses.

It is possible that 100 or 200 families have been added to the population of the county during the past year, but no data is obtainable, and these figures are only a vague guess. The largest immigration has been to the fruit belts, where consid erable government land is still obtainable. Very little good agricultural land remains open to settlement, and of the farmers who are here, far more are inclined to buy the lands adjoining them than to sell their own. Hence, the lands that have changed hands during the year have generally been purchased by resident farmers rather county farmer knows enough to hold on to a good thing when he has it. There is no time, however, when good, desirable farms cannot be obtained at from \$5 to \$10 an acre, a price still out of all proportion to their value under intelligent cultivation. Unimproved fruit lands can often be had at the price quoted for agricultural lands, but good fruit farms, with trees in full bearing, cannot often be obtained for less

It may help a stranger to form some

clip last year was 350,000 pounds. Of this amount, Mr. Hendrick, the veteran ware-houseman of McMinnville, bought 100,000 pounds.

### Largest Immigration in Yamhill's History.

The county can record the largest immigration in 1899 that it has ever had in any single year since its earliest settleent. At least 200 persons entered its confines from Eastern states. The increase has been quite general in the county. Some say that their attention was first drawn to the state and to Yamhill co by reading the New Year's Oregonian of

The unusually heavy rains interfered with fail seeding, so that probably not more than ong-third the usual acreage has been sown. This will largely increase the spring acreage.

Yamhill is pre-eminently an agricultural district. Nothing so emphasizes this fact as the large stocks of farm implements kept in all the towns, and the great amount and variety purchased by the farmers each year. county sent, has six of these stocks. Yam-hill also has large timbered districts, whose splendld specimens of fir sweep the cobwebs from the sky. The large mill-ing firm of Jones & Adams does an an-nual business of 1,000,000 feet of lumber, while eight to a dozen other mills add at least a second million.

Building in 1839 was principally confined to residences, and the gain has been con-spicuous and substantial in the larger towns.

Great disappointment is felt by many at the failure to complete the construc-tion of the government locks in the Yamhill river at Lafayette, that McMinnville might thereby be placed at the head of navigation all the year around. This is a consummation devoutly wished during 1900, nothing now remaining to be done except the construction of a dam. The rainfall for the year, by months, up to December 12, was:

January R	21
February	.01
March	.00
Apris	25
May	2
June	갧
July	2
August	2
September	-
October	ñ
December, to 10th	俞
Total	91

This is an excess over 1898 of about 13 inches.

### Demand for Manufacturing Enterprises.

The great need of the county is manufacturing industries. We are long on raw material and short on skilled labor to eat the products of the farm. This is largely true of all Oregon. We need fac-tories and canneries to convert the overproduction and ship to other markets in manufactured form what we now ship out raw, to be returned manufactured, with freight rates added. As has been aptly expressed, we thus "corrode our viscers" with freight rates. The Star mills, of McMinnville, have just completed filling an order of 7000 sacks of flour, to be shipped to Japan, and are grinding on a new order. Other mills of the county are shipping to foreign countries. They have the machinery and the wheat, and inbor does the rest. It only proves what may be done in other lines to take advantage of the opportunities for trade with the Philippines, China and Japan. Cured meats, canned goods in great variety,

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