



THE WIDE WHEAT FIELDS OF EASTERN OREGON

## In the Diversity of its Resources Oregon is Supreme among the Great States of the West.

**N**O STATE in the Union is so rich in resources as Oregon. The forest wealth is nearly 250,000,000 feet of the finest timber—hard and soft woods—offering unparalleled inducements to lumber and furniture manufacture. Both east and west of the Cascades are mines of gold, copper, silver, lead and other metals. Every bay and the principal rivers abound in fish. Well-defined deposits of iron await the coming of capital. Southwestern Oregon has large coal bodies that have been producing for years, and the northwestern and northeastern parts of the state have coal that may yet be mined at a profit. In all parts of the state there are thousands of acres to be had at reasonable prices for further development in agriculture, horticulture and dairying. All these industries have shown marked improvement in recent years. Timber lands have been in active demand for three years, and nearly all that are available have been taken up with a view to use in the near future. Oregon is now recognized as a mining state, and the Eastern Oregon, Bohemia and Southern Oregon districts are quite as well known in the East and Europe as Cripple Creek. Capital no longer has to be coaxed; it comes here seeking investment. Agriculture is taking on diversified form, and dairying has come to help and replenish the wheat-exhausted soil of the Willamette Valley. Horticulture is getting down to a scientific basis.

What all Oregon is that it does not make enough commodity for its own use. It sends its wheat to the Middle West for bacon, hams and lard, when it need not waste a dollar away for pork products. Likewise it buys furniture from the East made of material which was originally cut in the home forests. And so with wool, which is shipped out in the crude state and comes back as high-grade clothing. Coal is imported from British Columbia, Puget Sound, and even Australia, though Coos Bay could supply the home market if it had adequate transportation facilities.

Another circumstance that checks Oregon's growth is the isolation of large, rich and productive areas. Under this heading may be included the Counties of Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Grant, Harney, Klamath, Lake, Tillamook and Wallowa. In 10 years these 10 counties gained 445 people. Had they adequate transportation facilities, they would have gained from 35,000 to 50,000. Columbia has a railroad skirting the river bank, but it does not tap the fertile Nehalem country. Coos and Curry, an empire in themselves, are hidden in Southwestern Oregon, and are forced to depend upon the sea and upon stage routes. Coos gained 1650 people in 10 years, and Curry 139. Tillamook is in about the same situation as Coos and Curry. Its population increased 1543. Crook gained 742, but it might have done better, had it not taken so long to discover that the small farm is better than the big stock ranch. Grant increased its population by 302, the majority of whom have doubtless come in with the mining rush. Grant has stood by stock, principally because there was no profit in producing other commodities for outside markets at prevailing transportation charges. It is destined to be an agricultural county. Given a railroad, the John Day Valley will, with irrigation, make the Willamette Valley look to its laurels. Harney, pent up in Southeastern Oregon, gained 37 people in 10 years. Lake and Klamath, its near neighbors, gained 242 and 4528, respectively. Wallowa, shut up in Northeastern Oregon, gained 1377. The resources of these isolated communities are now well known, and plans are on foot to "open them up" and give them better facilities for marketing their products. Columbia, Coos, Curry and Tillamook can be made to Oregon what Gray's and Willapa Harbors are to Washington, and Crook, Grant, Harney, Klamath, Lake and Wallowa are the making of another Big Bend.

The essential for extensive manufacturing enterprise is a large and dependable fuel supply. This is an important question in California as well as in Oregon. In California the imported coal—even that which comes as ballast—has always been so costly as to interfere with and check the growth of manufacturing industry. Every near-by every foot of land in the vicinity of Portland, both in Oregon and in Wash-

ington, has been prospected the past year for coal. Several beds have been discovered, but the quality of the coal remains to be finally determined. In California the fuel problem, it would appear, has been practically solved by the oil discoveries. The oil, so far as tests have gone, is better for fuel than for illumination. In Southern California, says the Engineering and Mining Journal, "oil can now be supplied at a price which makes its cost to the consumer much lower than coal, when the relative fuel values and the prices of coal are considered." What effect this oil fuel will have on manufacturing enterprise in Oregon depends upon its cost to the Oregon consumer. Of course, the best thing for Oregon would be a fuel supply of its own, and for such men interested in the industrial welfare of the state are looking.

**B**AKER COUNTY has a greater variety of resources than any other county in the state. No other section offers so good an opening for mining, lumbering, farming, stockraising and dairying. While these industries are extensively carried on, they are as yet in the incipient stage. The principal valleys are Powder River, Burnt River, Upper Burnt River, Sumpter and Iye, in most of which placer mining is carried on to some extent, together with farming and stockraising. They vary in elevation from 3000 to 6000 feet. Burnt River Valley, in the southwestern part of the county, is about 45 miles long, and from a few rods to two miles wide. Burnt, Connor Creek and Snake River Valleys are not so elevated as other sections of the county. They are the principal fruit-growing districts. Sumpter Valley is 20 miles long, and from one to two miles wide. On its slopes, its great elevation, fruit and grain are not so successfully cultivated as in other sections, but hay is produced in abundance. Large bodies of valuable timber surround the valley, and lumbering is an important industry. Stockraising and dairying are carried on. The two Powder River Valleys are each about 25 miles long, varying from two to 20 miles in width. They contain very rich soil, and are the principal farming and stockraising districts of the county. A large portion of the two Powder River Valleys, as well as most of the other valleys, contain wild sagebrush lands, which irrigation would make productive. Distribution of the water supply, which is abundant, could be accomplished by means of large reservoirs, for which the county is well adapted by nature, and by the construction of extensive irrigation canals.

**B**ENTON COUNTY has a most desirable climate, by reason of its physical situation. An elevation averaging from 400 to 500 feet, a general eastern exposure, as the land slopes from the Coast Range, the temperature never rises above 100 deg. in Summer and seldom falls below 20 above zero in Winter. The average temperature for the year is about 50 deg. The eastern part of the county, extending back from the Willamette River, the way from 3 to 10 miles, is nearly level; thence westward it is hilly, but can be cultivated. There is no part that is not well watered, and along the streams in the valleys between the hills the land is unequalled for farming and grazing. The land is not so rich as for which it is best adapted, and for that reason the principal industries are agriculture, horticulture, stockraising and dairying. Some lumber is cut. The county is well provided with transportation facilities.

**C**LACKAMAS COUNTY'S area is about one-third cultivable, the remainder being wooded and mountainous regions, valuable for timber and pasture. The farming lands are of great variety of soil and richness. The Willamette River runs through the county, affording excellent transportation facilities at minimum rates, and serving at the same time to regulate railroad charges. In Portland the producers of Clackamas County have an unlimited market. One-half of the farmers can drive to Portland, do their trading and return home the same day. Ten years ago horticulture was taken up in earnest, and in a few years it will be the principal industry. The soil, where there is good natural drainage, is adapted to prairie-growing. Clackamas is a clover country, and therefore offers unequalled inducements to dairy-

ing. Hops, lumber and stock supplement agriculture, and there are mineral deposits which could be developed. Clackamas County is an empire in itself, and could support 500,000 people without crowding.

**C**LATSOP COUNTY is not excelled in wealth and diversity of natural resources by any region of like area in the Northwest. Fishing, by reason of the amount of capital invested in it, is the principal industry. In 30 years it has brought in a gross revenue of about \$75,000,000. Next in point of value are the timber resources. There are over 600,000 acres of forest, mostly Oregon pine. There are in several parts of the county several coal veins thick enough to prove profitable, and of a character believed to be merchantable, but development of them proceeds slowly. Near Astoria are large deposits of pottery clay of a quality suitable for the manufacture of drain pipes and earthenware. Dairying promises to become an important industry.

**C**OLUMBIA COUNTY contains 633 square miles of which 32 square miles are covered with 27,700 board measure, to the acre. Agriculture is slow of development, as the big trees must be cleared away before farming begins. Along the waterways and the railroad ditches flourish a large number of skimming stations and creameries have been established, notably in the upper end of the county along the Columbia River and Willamette Slough. Dairy products find ready market at low cost, as there is access to Portland both by river and rail. Here the horticulturist finds soil of a fine character, and a variety of fruit-bearing trees, except those peculiar to the tropics, grow to perfection. Mineral development has hardly begun. The Nehalem coal fields and iron mountains are inexhaustible, but the quality of the products remains to be settled. Railroads would make Columbia one of the most productive of Oregon counties. These apparently are not far off.

**C**OOS COUNTY, with 13,000,000,000 feet of merchantable timber, in solid blocks, standing over five and six feet of lignite coal; agriculture that sows little and reaps much; a climate which stands first for evenness of its temperature; a harbor with the deepest entrance between San Francisco and the Columbia River—offers great inducements to the homeseeker. One-half of the county is a forest of fir, cedar, spruce and hemlock. The coal is in many respects superior in quality and quantity to any found on the Pacific Coast. The deposits are nearly continuous and unbroken by the linear courses of the creeks and river bottoms are fertile to a high degree. Potatoes yield as high as 500 bushels to the acre. Fruit of all kinds grows well, and there is no better region in Oregon for dairying and bee culture. Coos county's isolation from the remainder of Oregon, and its dependence upon the sea and the stage for communication with the world, retard its development, but a brighter day is dawning for it.

**C**ROOK COUNTY will be benefited by irrigation. The county's rough, broken surface, with large areas of what is called waste land, seem to make it essentially a stock-raising county. Through the agency of irrigation much of the sage lands will be reclaimed, and hay, grain and vegetable growth will be added to the stockraising and stockfeeding facilities. Where irrigation is feasible, the sage lands yield abundant crops of alfalfa and grain, the third crop of the former not being uncommon. Vegetables thrive and fruit is successfully grown in the northern and central sections of the county. Mining is carried on.

**C**URRY COUNTY'S topography is mountainous, with numerous plateaus of various sizes and elevations, covered with forests or brush. On all the streams rich bottom lands abound. These were located by the first settlers, and form the backbone of the agricultural wealth of the county, though there are many mountain ranches which dispute the superiority of the alluvials. The largest body of arid land has a triangular shape, with its apex at Port Orford, and its base

extending into Coos County. It is an old ocean bed raised up, with an old beach, rich in gold, skirting the foothills. Quartz and placer gold is found in all sections. There are rich copper deposits at the mouth of Rogue River. Borate of lime is extensively mined on the coast near Chetco. Chrome and iron are found. Dairying is the chief occupation of those who live adjacent to the coast. Livestock is an important industry. As a fruit region Curry will compare favorably with any section of the state. The salmon fisheries and lumber are very valuable.

**D**OUGLAS COUNTY is one of Oregon's garden spots. The general character of the soil in the valleys is alluvial, deep, rich and productive of grain, grasses, vegetables of every variety common to the temperate zone. The county is peculiarly adapted to stockraising from the fact that domestic animals, except cows and workhorses, pick up their own living in the open air the year round. The county has nearly 24,000,000 feet of standing timber. In the valleys and foothills oak is the dominant species. The Cascade and Coast Ranges are vast forests of fir, pine and cedar. Large timbered areas are adjacent to the Umpqua and its tributaries. Douglas County has both quartz and placer gold mines.

**J**ILLIAM COUNTY is one of the small counties of Oregon in point of area, but it is a land of big things in all other respects. Stock, grain, hay, vegetables, are raised. The contour of the county varies from the alluvial bottom lands lying along the streams to the equally fertile tablelands of the higher altitudes. The alluvial lands are covered with fruit and vegetables, while the high lands yield bountiful harvests of cereals. Not many years ago stockraising overshadowed farming. It was then thought that the land could not be cultivated, but experiment proved otherwise, and now the farmer is King.

**G**RANT COUNTY is mountainous, but it has a number of fertile valleys, the chief of which is the John Day. Stockraising is the principal industry. John Day Valley is 50 miles long, and averages 12 miles in width. The soil is a sandy loam, a good retainer of heat at night. Irrigation would transform the valley into one of the most productive sections of Oregon. Half the land of Bear Valley is vacant, and stockmen own much of the other half. Agricultural development is limited. Logan Valley is principally owned by stockmen and utilized as a Summer pasture. Slieve's Valley is a Fall pasture for the same stockmen who control Logan Valley. Fox Valley, 20 miles north of Canyon City, raises grain, vegetables and stock, and ships butter and cheese. The Long Creek country is principally tableland. It produces good crops of grain without irrigation. Grant County is one of Oregon's great mining sections. Thousands of locations have been made in the past three years.

**H**ARNEY COUNTY has rolling hills, chains, and consequently several deep canyons, lofty mountain varieties of climate. Timber of fine quality covers the mountain sides. Fir, spruce, yellow and bull pine predominate. On the lower knobs juniper and mountain mahogany are plentiful. The soil along the river and creek bottoms is a mixture of vegetable mold and sediment. It produces a variety of natural grasses—bluejoint, sugar grass and redtop—which make fine hay. The upland is thickly and firmly set with a hardy growth of bunchgrass, affording both Summer and Winter range. Cereals grow nearly everywhere, but are at their best along the streams where the water can be diverted for irrigation. Wheat runs from 35 to 35 bushels to the acre, and one field near Burns yielded 73 bushels per acre of merchantable wheat in 1897. Orchard products are free from insect pests. The soil is believed to be adapted to the cultivation of sugar beets.

**J**ACKSON COUNTY is the acknowledged center of the most delightful climatic belt on the Pacific Coast—a golden mean between the moisture of the Willamette Valley and Puget Sound on the north and the droughts of California on the south. Among the principal industries are di-

versified agriculture, horticulture, stockraising and gold mining. In the past 50 years the mines of Jackson County have added between \$20,000,000 and \$25,000,000 to the country's gold supply. All varieties of fruit are produced. Ashland peaches are favorites in the markets of the Pacific Coast. Grain, including corn, grows without irrigation. The forests hold a vast wealth of sugar and yellow pine and fir.

**J**OSEPHINE, one of the richest of Oregon's counties, was until recently one of its least developed sections. Fifty years ago it had a large population, which overran the surface of the country, mining where there was good pay at little outlay. When the rich placers appeared to be exhausted, the industry declined and the population drifted away, leaving the real wealth of the region untouched. All the mountains are rich in minerals, and under systematic work the gold production is now much larger than ever. Mines are only part of Josephine's resources. The streams that make placer work so profitable can also be utilized for irrigation. Nothing finer in the way of agricultural possibilities can be found anywhere than in the fertile valley of the Rogue River. From this valley come the choicest fruits and vegetables, while the output of melons is something prodigious. Agriculture, horticulture and stockraising have made rapid strides in the past three or four years. The county's standing timber, appraised at 75 cents per thousand stumpage, is an asset which approximates \$4,000,000.

**K**LAMATH COUNTY is pre-eminent for its fertility for stockraising. The possibilities of the industry are practically unlimited, owing to the natural systems of irrigation. Capital has been interested in the county in recent years, and many miles of irrigation canals have been made. Water has been turned upon the waste lands, making them produce from five to seven tons of alfalfa per acre. The most valuable natural resource of the county is the pine timber, which covers 1,500,000 acres. The largest and most valuable tract lies north of the Klamath River, and is known as the Jenny Creek belt. It contains fully 5,000,000 feet of the finest sugar and yellow pine. Klamath County produces grain, fruits, and even hops and tobacco in small quantities.

**L**AKE COUNTY'S resources are agriculture, stockraising and fruit growing. Wheat runs from 20 to 35 bushels to the acre, barley from 20 to 30 bushels, and alfalfa, without irrigation after July, produces approximately four tons to the acre. The natural meadow lands grow a quality of grass superior to most of the tame grasses. Experiment has so overcome the elements that where once the potato was considered an impossibility the tomato is now common. Gardens produce everything known to Southern California. Stockraising is the main resource of the people. The principal valleys are Goose Lake, Warner, Silver Lake, Summer Lake, Chewaucan, Drew's and Crooked River. All are well watered.

**L**ANE COUNTY is half prairie land, with very rich soil, producing abundant crops of grain, hay, fruit and vegetables, and half hill and upland. The tablelands bordering the valleys are partly covered with timber or brush, most of it being open enough for the pasturage. These lands are fertile and yield abundant crops when cultivated. Every crop that grows in the Willamette Valley grows in Lane. Nearly all the farms are supplied from natural sources with the best of water. The immense timber wealth, aggregating nearly 25,000,000,000 feet, is just beginning to receive attention, and Lane now cuts more lumber than any county in the state except Multnomah. The famous Bohemia mining district, destined to become the Cripple Creek of Oregon, lies partly in Lane County.

**L**INN is a typical Willamette Valley County in climate and products. Its products are cereals, hops, fruit, wool, stock, dairying, and some tobacco. The varied character of the land invites the homeseeker, no matter what branch of farming he may elect to follow. The farmer who best succeeds in Linn is the one who keeps

EXTENSIVE  
FLOUR EXPORT



FRUIT RAISING INDUSTRY



Wool CROP OF EASTERN OREGON



DAIRYING IN WESTERN OREGON



HOP FIELDS OF THE  
WILLAMETTE  
VALLEY



Wool CROP OF  
EASTERN OREGON



THOUSANDS OF CATTLE FATTEN ON OREGON'S PLAINS FOR EASTERN MARKET

