

not now the predominant product of the county, as it was in early days. It is still an important industry, but as a matter of fact, there were many cattle and sheep raised and exported the past year as during the days when this was the almost sole reliance for income. There are thousands of acres of hill land, extending well into the mountain ranges on either side of the valley, which afford an abundance of the finest kind of pasture for cattle, sheep and goats. The seasons are such that little attention is necessary, and stock does well with little expense. As a matter of precaution, nearly all the stockmen put up some hay during the summer in order to be fortified against a short spell of bad weather in winter, when feeding is advisable, but as a general thing stock will come through the winter in fair condition without any feed whatever except what they gather for themselves.

There is now in the county about 20,000 head of cattle, whose value is approximately \$500,000. The export the past year has been about 700 head, valued at \$140,000. The flocking season is about over, sheep, valued at \$200,000, and 800 goats, valued at \$20,000. The export for the year has been about one-third the number now on hand.

Not much attention is paid to hog-raising, but most of the farmers keep a few, which yield a decidedly satisfactory return for the investment. The market during the past year about 2000 hogs, and they really bring \$5 to \$10 each.

Another industry of considerable importance to the county is that of fishing, the past season being a very successful one. There are two salmon canneries on the Steamer Bay, near Florence, which furnish employment during the fishing season to several hundred men. Their importance and product is second only to the famous Columbia River fishing grounds in the state.

Towns and Public Institutions.

The county seat and principal town of Lane County is Eugene. There are other towns of considerable business importance such as Cottage Grove, which is the headquarters for the business of the Beama mines, as well as a large tributary country devoted to the raising of stock, raising, etc. Junction City, which is a trading point for a large tributary agricultural country, and Florence, which is the business center of the Willamette Valley. Eugene has a population of about 5000 and is one of the most beautifully located cities on the Coast. It is first a home town, and is well known and impressed with the beautiful and comfortable residences, broad and well-kept streets, with their ample rows of shade trees on either side, the substantial and well-kept business houses, etc.

It is the seat of the Oregon State University, which is the leading educational institution of the state, which devotes its attention to the higher branches of education. It is a growing institution, but is already well equipped and in position to meet the demands of the young men and women of the state for a strictly first-class university education. The grounds and buildings are located on a beautiful rise of ground in the eastern part of the city and are ample for the accommodation of the several hundred students who are here from all parts of the state. The corps of instructors consists of 25 heads of departments and assistants, who have been selected for their special qualifications in their several branches, and the instruction given is up to the standard of the leading universities in the country.

The public schools and high school are also of the highest order and furnish education up to and including the twelfth grade, and upon completion of this course the student is fully prepared to enter upon a university course.

Although not a manufacturing town particularly, there are located here a large grist mill, excelsior mill, planing mill and sash and door factory, fruit drying and packing establishment, saw mill, two iron works, a machine shop, a large tannery, and several minor manufacturing institutions. There are now assured for the coming season a new planing mill and a saw mill, both of which are supplied with excellent water-works system and electric lights, and all the modern improvements and conveniences, which help to make a delightful place to live, as well as a good business point.

In Lane County it is the great variety of resources and the certainty with which they may be converted into cash, that give the value of its business. It is not alone the timber resources that make the county what it is, neither is it the educational facilities, the health resorts, the raising of the fruit, the hops, the mines, the manufacturing, the fishing, or any other single branch of industry; but all these combined go to make up the place of great commercial importance, where any man has a good chance of fair reward for industry and for energy intelligently expended.

Eugene. G. O. YORAN.

LINN COUNTY.

Best in Oregon, Therefore the Best in the World.

Linn County carried off the honors at the State Fair, and Oregon is triumphant at the Pan-American Exposition. Oregon is the banner state of the Union; therefore Linn is the banner county of the United States. This is the kind of reasoning that Linn County people are doing just now, and with something to back it. Its location and natural advantages, as well as its cultivated advantages, entitles it to more than ordinary notice. It has produced the goods and hence it is not mere bragadocio when it puts forth its claim for a front place on the face of the earth.

The situation of Linn County is the heart of the far-famed Willamette Valley. It is about 70x40 miles in extent. It is bounded on the west by the Willamette River, which being navigable most of the year, gives its products the advantage of lower rates in transportation, and as well a complete system of natural irrigation. It is about 30 miles to the foothills in the most fertile land in the world. Its eastern section is a mountain of timberland, monster fire and hard wood, usually found anywhere in the world, and as well contains mineral resources of promise. Its whole surface therefore offers a diversity that is rare in a single county.

Fine wheat land.
Soll and climate suitable for fruit.
Foothills for stockraising.
Quartz and placer propositions.
Forty-five inches of rain annually, well distributed, insures never-failing crops in every line.

An equable climate, never too cold, never too hot, without cyclones or blizzards makes the living here a pleasure.

Ample Railroad Facilities.
Very properly Linn County people boast of their railroad facilities. Linn County is very fortunate in this respect, for its producers are thus sure of the best market to be obtained. Two railroads, one to the west and south through it, and one through quite a section of it eastward into the foothills with promise of crossing the mountains into Bend and beyond, are being constructed. The main line of the Southern Pacific and the Oregonian branch. The county is thus well covered.

Schools Up to the Best Standard.

Letters of inquiry from the East invariably ask about our schools, some in a manner to indicate a doubt as to our advancement in the cause of education in keeping with the progress of the East. Linn County is particularly fortunate in its schools, and they may be said to be the pride of the people of this county. Not only is the grade school in vogue, but the higher grades are fast being added. The schools of Albany have ten grades, and the other incorporated cities eight grades. The standard of the schools is advancing, and greater attention is being

paid to qualification. Besides the public school system, Albany has a college of splendid merit, with an efficient corps of teachers, whose watchword has ever been thoroughness, with a moral as well as educational training; a sisters' academy in efficient hands, and Lebanon has an academy long established and well managed.

Most of the leading religious denominations are represented in the cities of the county, and through the country are scattered organizations, some which meet in their own churches and others in the schoolhouses of their district. A more orderly, better behaved people will be found in few places in the United States.

Dairying an Important Industry.
Linn County has taken a leading position in pushing the dairying interests of the state to the front, and is able to present a flattering record. There are now several good creameries in the county generally patronized. The Albany creamery has done much to bring butter-making to the front in this part of the state.

From the time of its establishment nearly thirty years ago, it has, as its business has grown, not been able to meet the demands for the product. In addition to

tannery, water power, it is one of the old towns of the county and an excellent business center. Harrisburg, 30 miles south of Albany, has about 600 population, three churches, a hotel, saw mill, flouring mill, graded school, good general merchandise stores, warehouses and other smaller institutions.

Halsey, a city of 200, has four churches, a good school, wheat warehouse, skimming station and fruit drier. Sheed, 14 miles south of Albany, three churches, a skimming station, warehouse and general merchandise stores. Tangent, 9 miles south of Albany, has a store, blacksmith shop, warehouse, two churches, a large hall and a good school. Scio, 15 miles east of Albany, on a branch of the Southern Pacific, a city of about 500, is a superior business center. It has ten stores, two hotels, a bank, a flax mill, sash and door factory, two churches, a fine school, water works, electric lights, creamery, flour mill and warehouse.

Lyons, on the Corvallis & Eastern, 23 miles east of Albany, has three stores, a saw mill, hotel and good school. Other towns along the Corvallis & Eastern in

land, and of waste area that lie on steep mountain sides or in mountain gorges. The Government census of 1900 shows the population of the county to 27,712, of which 5200 is enumerated in Salem and its immediate suburbs. Of the total area, 155,000 acres are included in the Cascade forest reserve, leaving 121,000 acres upon which some 2500 families, of the farming classes, are making their homes. In the hop and fruitgrowing districts, the farms comprise only 29 to 40 acres, so it will readily be seen that there is abundant room for double the present population, even under the present methods of agriculture.

The Willamette River flows along Marion County's western boundary for a distance of 50 miles. Along the river there are rich bottom lands formed from the deposits of soil during high water. Some of the bottom lands are subject to almost yearly overflow, and are consequently best suited to market gardening and the production of crops that require a maximum of fertility. There are also large tracts of bottom lands not subject to overflow, but which are well drained and easily brought to a high state of cultivation. These are the choice lands of the Willamette Valley

for the purposes of diversified farming. Back farther from the river may be found prairie lands, hill lands and finally the region known as the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, beginning about 15 miles east of the Willamette River. The soil along the river is alluvial, and in other sections of the county it is a red, brown or black loam. Improved bottom lands can be bought at from \$25 to \$100 per acre; prairie and hill lands at from \$10 to \$40 per acre, according to location. Unimproved lands may be purchased at from \$5 to \$20 per acre, according to location and natural conditions. There is some Government land in the eastern part of the county subject to homestead entry, and much of this will yet be taken by settlers, though it is now deemed not worth taking.

Marion County enjoys the distinction of being entirely out of debt. It has one of the prettiest and most substantial Courthouses in the state, and has no large expenses to meet in the near future. In paying off debts for internal improvements, the county tax levy has been slightly above 10 mills on the dollar. The assessed valuation of property, however, is only about one-third of its actual value, so that the county tax has, in reality, been less than 4 mills. The county administration has been economical, and intending settlers can rest assured that their county tax burdens will be light.

Marion County furnish a market for Linn County farmers. Besides these incorporated towns there are on the railroads small stations with a single store, schoolhouse and perhaps a creamery. The creamery has the proud distinction of ranking first at the State Fair, with the remarkable average of 92 1/2 per cent, several per cent higher on a fair test than the highest marking at the Pan-American Exposition. A creamery at Brownsville is particularly well managed by Fred Bruckman, a pupil of the Albany creamery, and also an Lebanon, of a more extensive character, besides smaller ones scattered through the county. Putting cash into the pockets of the farmer at the end of every month, at all seasons of the year, they have proven of inestimable advantage to him.

Stockraising.
The splendid market for cattle during the past few years has proven an impetus to stockraising, and rapid strides have been made in Linn County, many who had been turning their attention to this paying business. The shipments of cattle, sheep, horses and hogs from Linn County are being made from any of the Western Oregon counties.

Large Shipments of Fruit.
Shipments of dried prunes from Linn County last year were about 50 carloads, where in former years the shipment has been merely nominal. More apples, pears and smaller fruits are being sent away than ever before. New orchards are being set out and the demand for good trees in all lines of fruit is brisk. Even peaches do well here, and have the reputation of a superior quality, their favor being unexcelled anywhere.

Linn County is the original home in America of the best game bird in the country, the Monarch. King, and several English partridges were added with prospects of rapid multiplication. The fields of the county are filled with the bird, and the sportsman finds a splendid place for the whipping of streams.

The inhabitant of this part of the world has reason to be proud of the climate. It is mild and yet invigorating, rarely going above 85 in the summer or below 20 in the winter, and yet with a breeze from the sea in the evening possessing a refreshing quality that is of great value. Almost no snow in the winter and no blizzards or cyclones at any time. The records show as many hours of sunshine in the year as in most of the cities of the East. No place in the world offers more enjoyment for its inhabitants.

The Towns.
Linn County is particularly fortunate in the number of incorporated cities within its borders located on railroads, scattered over the county, thus offering superior markets with short hauls for the farmers of the county.

Albany, the county seat, is the leading city of the county, a splendid business center, with a population according to the census of 1900 of 216, about 4000 including the suburbs. Trains run out from it in five directions. Its manufacturing interests have a good start. It has a woolen mill, two chair factories, two flouring mills, sash and door factory, iron works, soda works, cigar factory and two creameries, besides an ice factory, brewery, steam laundry, etc. It has two banks, three newspaper offices, of which two are dailies, fruit driers, a water works system, electric lights, etc. It boasts of a fine cantilever bridge costing \$5,000.

Lebanon is 14 miles from Albany on a branch road of the Southern Pacific. It is a good business center, has one of the best paper mills on the Coast for coarse papers, good schools, a bank, electric light system, five churches, etc., with a population of about 2000 people. It is a fine business center 22 miles southeast of Albany. It has woolen mill, bank, six churches, two schools, a flour mill, planing mill, sash and door factory, creamery,

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off. In the market, hay sells for from \$5 to \$8 per ton. The hay crop in this county has been estimated at 40,000 tons, but under the new methods of farming this will be greatly increased. Most of the hay is consumed at home.

Hops.
An average hop crop in Marion County is 23,000 bales, of 19 pounds each, or about 4,370,000 pounds. The price varies widely, but an average price is 12 cents, at which the value of the crop is \$524,400. Practically all of the hop crop is exported, and as the production of harvesting of this quantity of hops requires the employment of a large number of men, women and children, all this sum of money is distributed directly among the people. The harvesting of the hop crop of Marion County gives employment to 10,000 persons who earn an average of \$1.50 per day for 12 days, or \$18,000. The total cost of production has been about 8 cents per pound, or \$480,000 in the aggregate. The family living in a state where hops are raised has a source of income not open to the resident of the Middle West or the South. Here whole families go to the hop yards and live in tents during the picking season. In this way the family enjoys a very profitable outing. Experience, and the introduction of more approved methods has enabled growers to reduce the cost of production, and the outlook is that Oregon will, in a few

years, be the great hop-producing section of America, for other states cannot long compete with it in the growing of this crop. The income from the hop crop may be expected to be more than double in the next 10 years.

Fruits.
The soil and climate of Marion County are suited to the production of fruit, and the fruitgrowing industry is each year becoming more firmly established upon a commercial basis. The greatest difficulty thus far encountered has been that the various localities do not produce the different fruits in sufficient quantity to build up a permanent business requiring frequent shipments in large quantities. The product has been too large for local consumption, but not large enough to make shipping profitable. It may be said that the Oregon dried prunes is the only fruit grown in this county that has a recognized place in Eastern markets. Apples, pears and cherries are grown here, and in favorable seasons find a good market outside this state. In a few years these fruits will also have a regular sale, which will make them a source of large income.

price of butter during the Spring and early Summer has been about 15 cents, and has increased 50 per cent during the remainder of the year. There is an outside demand for our butter and the local market reads that it is being exported.

Grass is green here the year round, with the exception of six to eight weeks in the Summer. By producing corn, vetches and the dry season, the farmer can keep up during the time when the price of butter is highest and the profits thus increased. Many silos have been built in this county during the past year and the number is being steadily increased. While there has not been a heavy increase in the quantity of butter produced in the last 12 months there has been a very marked improvement in the quality. Building up a dairy herd is a slow process, but the change in methods of manufacture has been very rapid. The butter product of the county is 60,000 pounds per year, with a value of \$150,000. That the farmers are finding irrigation profitable is evidenced by the fact that every farmer who has kept up during the time when the price of butter is highest and the profits thus increased. 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