

EAST OF THE CASCADES

Region Rich in Mines, With a Soil That Promises Great Developments in Agriculture and Horticulture

GEOGRAPHICALLY speaking, Eastern Oregon comprises all that part of the State east of the Cascade Mountains. But Klamath, Lake, Harney and Malheur counties belong in the southern and southwestern division, leaving 13 counties in Eastern Oregon proper. These are Baker, Crook, Gilliam, Grant, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler, aggregating in all 32,255 square miles. Each of these counties makes a good showing for wheat-raising, stock and horticulture, while in others, notably Baker, Grant and Union gold mining is an important industry. The possibilities of this field are enormous.

BAKER COUNTY.

Less Than One-Third of the Tillable Land is Under Cultivation.

Eastern Oregon comprises a goodly portion of what is justly termed the "Inland Empire," and Baker County is one of the richest subdivisions of that empire.

Rich in mineral and agricultural resources, it is yet in its infancy, so far as development goes. One-third larger than the State of Delaware, and almost two and a half times as large as the State of Rhode Island, it is easily capable of supporting a population equal to either of those states.

It is permitted to judge the future by the past, but it is not necessary to go back to the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers for data from which to reckon the future of Eastern Oregon. The history of the progress of Western civilization and the transformation of the wilderness, that has taken place within the memory of even some of the younger residents of the State of Oregon, amply foretell the future of Baker County and other portions of this virgin territory.

The county was named in honor of Colonel Edward Dickinson Baker, United States Senator from Oregon, who left his seat in the Senate, at the beginning of the War of the Rebellion, and entered the Union Army, only to give up his life, early in the struggle, at Bull's Bluff.

The extreme breadth of the county, including the "Panhandle" district, recently annexed, is 50 miles from north to south, and the length east and west, is 72 miles. Including the "Panhandle," the county has an area of over 300 square miles. The population, according to the last census, is 15,597, to which should be added the 300 inhabitants of the "Panhandle," which was annexed after the census was taken, making the population today about 15,900.

The general elevation of the county is not exceeded by that of any other county in the state, although the neighboring counties are on the same general plane.

Baker County is in what may be termed the arid-land district of Eastern Oregon, and in order that the land may be made to produce abundantly, irrigation is necessary.

There is plenty of water, if properly conserved, to supply all of the tillable land in this part of the state. Less than one-third of the tillable land is under cultivation today, but several large irrigation systems are being projected for the purpose of providing water for several hundred thousand acres of land; and when completed, the agricultural resources of the county will be increased many fold.

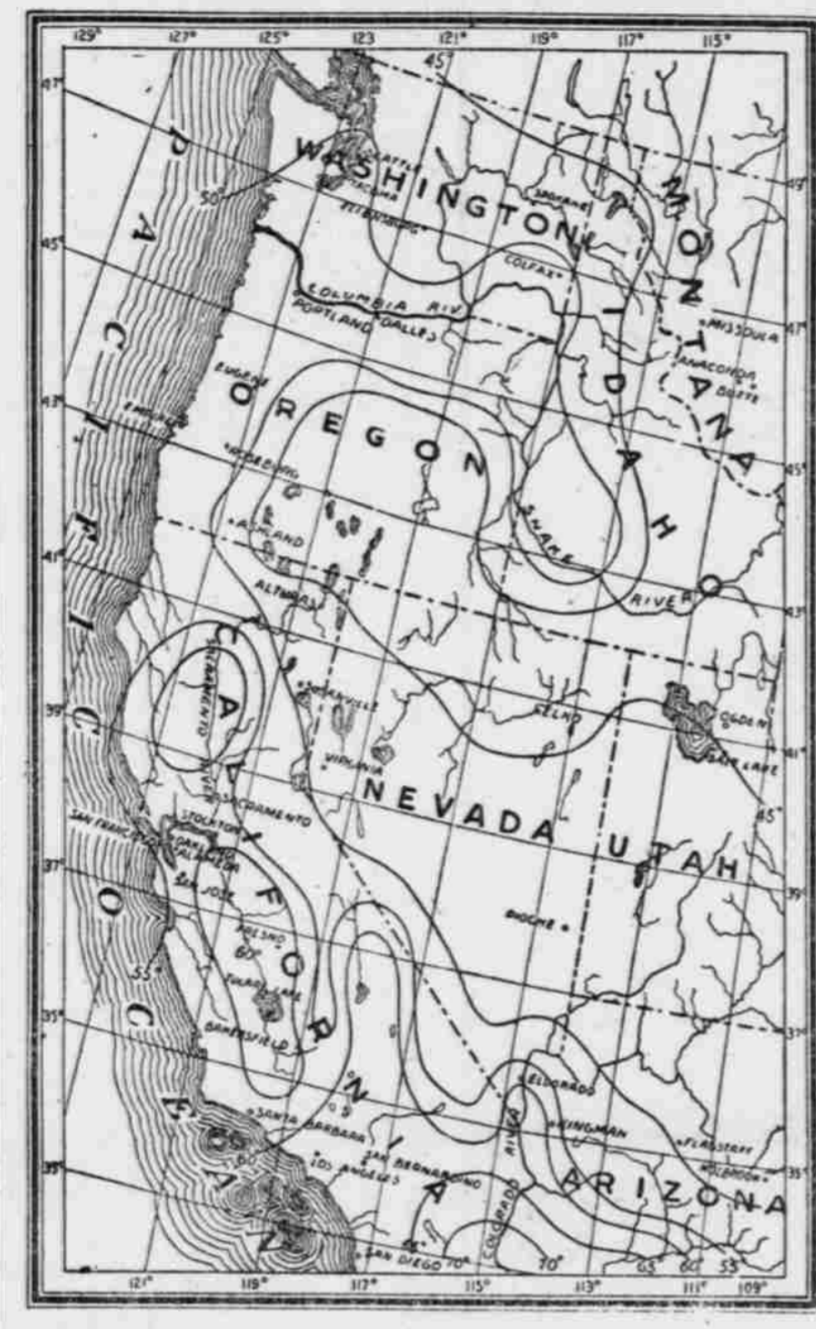
Wheat, under ordinary conditions, averages from 25 to 30 bushels to the acre, and barley from 30 to 40 bushels to the acre. Where irrigation is resorted to the crops never fail, and the yield is phenomenal. It is in no sense a detriment to the farmer to grow wheat in this county that it is included in the arid-land district, or that irrigation is necessary.

Irrigation Farmer Most Successful. The irrigation farmer is by all means the most successful in the county, a fact that has been demonstrated by over 50 years of practice in Utah, where this means of cultivating the soil was resorted to, at first, from dire necessity, but afterwards it proved to be a blessing in disguise, because, from a small acreage, many acres of superior quality, could be produced, with less labor, than by any other means of cultivation of the soil, and the crop was always abundant.

One of the greatest irrigation systems in the world is being constructed in the land of the Pharaohs, by a company of European capitalists, and the government, who are damming up the Nile at a point where it will carry the waters over land that never was cultivated. This means that during the tillable land of the time of Moses.

re-developed; that is, they are being fitted with engines and hoists, capable of going to the depths, and during the coming year the truth or fallacy of an old geological theory will be established, namely, that the richest gold ores are yet to be found as the result of deep mining.

Colonel Pat Doan, writing of Eastern Oregon gold fields five years ago, said: "But when these Klondike our doors, these nearby and always accessible combinations of Bonanza and Homeland, none offers surer riches in the present, or more gloriously golden in the future, than the famous Eastern Oregon gold fields, of which Baker City is the great and metropolis. Scores of great mines have already been developed, new



ANNUAL NORMAL TEMPERATURE OF THE PACIFIC COAST STATES.

ones are being almost daily discovered, and hundreds more are yet to be found. The whole region is rich in resources and product now, and will be incalculably richer as its mighty stores of hidden wealth are opened up, and the boundless opportunities it presents for speedy fortune become known. There is not in all the world today a field of grander promise for the intelligent and enterprising prospector and miner than the famous Eastern Oregon gold fields, where the brave-hearted advance agents of prosperity in every true bonanza land.

Colonel Pat is not a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but he is a very practical writer, who has become so familiar with the possibilities of the Northwest territory, from long years of observation, that his opinions have great weight. Time has demonstrated that he speaks the truth when he penned the foregoing. In a recent article on the Eastern Oregon gold fields Colonel Doan quotes the above extract, written years ago, and himself declares it prophetic.

Value of the Stock Interests. In addition to agriculture and mining, the stock industry must be taken into account when the resources of Baker County are mentioned. The assessed valuation of the cattle owned by residents of this county for the year 1901 is \$270,000, and the sheep are valued at \$77,000.

Baker City is the county seat of Baker County, with a population is about 7000, or to be exact, 6663, according to the last census—a little more than one-third of the population of the entire county. It is the third city in point of population and business importance in the state, and is to the eastern part of the state what Portland is to the whole of Oregon. It is so situated with reference to the mines and agricultural lands that it will continue to grow in importance, as this part of the state develops. It is the principal banking and commercial center of all of Eastern Oregon. No city in the state outranks it in the way of public school buildings. It is well supplied with churches, and one of the neatest and best arranged theaters in the state (Baker's Opera-House) has recently been completed and opened to the public. It can boast of several mercantile institutions that are equal to those found anywhere in the West in a city of equal size and business importance.

The hotel facilities are second to none. The Geiser Grand, a new hotel now nearing completion, will equal the noted Portland Hotel, of the City of Portland, in every way except size.

Several railroads are projected to the various mining centers in this part of the state, all of which will terminate in Baker City, insuring its commercial supremacy in the future.

Transportation Needed for the Mines. Want of proper transportation facilities is a great obstacle in the way of the rapid development of the mines of this section of the state. A great many good mines do not produce ore that is rich enough to bear the expense of transportation to the mills and smelters by the present means, but when the country is once opened up with railroads and the cost of transportation reduced to a reasonable figure, the mineral output of the mining districts of this part of the state will be increased many fold.

affords fine grazing for cattle and sheep, under permit from the Government. The remaining 18 townships may be roughly classified as timbered, desert and rolling hill and valley land.

Timbered Lands. About 24 townships bordering the Cascade Reserve, and in the Pauline Mountains, 20 townships in the Blue Mountains and four in Maury Mountains make up the timber area, covered principally with yellow pine of excellent quality, free from undergrowth and easily available. A fair estimate of the stumpage per section would be not less than 6,000 feet, making a grand total of more than 1,000,000,000 feet of merchantable lumber. Practically all of these lands in the Blue and Maury Mountains and about one-third of that along the reserve is Government land, open to settlement or purchase. In all this area, however, the school sections have been sold and are held, generally, by Eastern capitalists and lumbermen.

Desert Lands. The so-called "desert lands" cover an area of about 20 townships in the south central part of the county. The term "desert" is not properly applied to these lands. It is not a desert under the ordinary acceptance of the word. The land is generally level, broken here and there by low ridges and occasionally a volcanic butte or crater, extinct ages ago, and sloping to the northward with the general watershed of the Deschutes and Crooked Rivers, which bound the desert on two

For at least four-fifths of the year the skies are cloudless, with occasional rains from April to November. The temperature ranging in the 90s for a week or two during the hottest part of the Summer, and about zero generally for four or five days about the holidays. These are the extremes, and between these the climate is not excellent in Oregon. In the lower altitudes snow seldom falls to a greater depth than one foot, and rarely remains more than a week at a time until dissipated by gentle "chinkoo" winds. Snowing is done every month in the year, except January, February, and March, and in that month, cattle and sheep are fed from one to three months, owing to locality, and the season, formerly, before the ranges were fenced, the sheep were not fed at all. Grass on lawns in Prineville remains green throughout the year.

Mineral Resources. In the north central part of the county lies an extensive mineral belt upon which hundreds of mining claims have been located, and a few of which are being actively developed. Prominent among this latter class is the Oregon King mine, on which there has been done \$50,000 worth of work, and it is only a matter of some good prospects, the latest discovery being an immense body of ore carrying high percentages of quicksilver. Upon this mine about \$25,000 worth of work has been done, and one company is pushing development work and will continue to do so through the winter. During the past Summer, the latest discovery has been found over a large territory to the south and east of Prineville, and several companies have been formed for the purpose of developing the same. Several thousand acres of so-called oil land filed on, but further than this nothing has been done, and the oil well remains in its primitive bed and another section of the same.

No County Debt. On March 1, 1901, there were 556,307 acres of deeded lands in the county, and about as much more held under the various land laws to which title had not yet been acquired. In all about 1500 square miles, leaving 100 square miles, or 1,200 sections of public land open to settlement and acquisition under the homestead, desert and timber land laws. This means that there is room for 20,000 men to get a home of 160 acres. A large part of this will never be settled, but much of it will, and that soon. The annual tax levy for all taxes in the county, for the year 1901, was 1000, is steadily growing, has every line of business well represented, with a trade extending beyond the confines of the county, and a school system, an electric lighting and water-pumping system, a national bank, two weekly newspapers, each with a circulation of 1000, a fire department, and is the home of Hon. J. N. Williamson, one of the foremost public men in Oregon. Public schools are maintained in all parts of the county, and rarely remain closed for more than a few months of the year. Shanks, the southern terminus of the Columbia Southern, is the nearest railroad shipping point, 12 miles from the county line, through which point practically all travel and freight go, and from the county passes, this road southward into the heart of the county a distance of nearly 100 miles, where it will reach the Deschutes River in the immediate vicinity of the "desert" which is to be brought under irrigation. The Corvallis & Eastern Railroad is also a possibility which, if carried out, will cross the county and entering the county will cross this same "desert" in a southeasterly direction. The building of these roads, which will be of great benefit to the development of the county, but whether or not it would materially advance the interests of those already here is an open question.

In conclusion Crook County, with its wealth of timber, grass, tillable lands and mineral resources, and splendid climate, and with irrigation the tillable land is exceedingly valuable. For several years in what is known as the Squaw Creek country, on the west side of the county, the waters of Squaw Creek have been utilized for irrigation purposes, resulting in clover and alfalfa fields producing two or three fine crops each season, besides all the grain, vegetables and fruits adapted to Eastern Oregon generally, and this on land almost identical in character with that of the "desert." In a word, when irrigated this "desert" will be the most productive part of the county, and homeseekers will not go amiss in availing themselves of the opportunities here presented.

Rolling Hills and Valleys. The remaining 10 townships, classified as rolling hills and valleys, contain by far the greater part of the improved lands of the county. These are along the streams, where irrigation is practicable or unnecessary, and on the plateau known as the Haystack country, which is similar in nearly all respects to the whole of Wasco, Sherman and Gilliam Counties, producing grain, vegetables and fruits in paying quantities without irrigation. Many homesteads have been located and are being taken here, and there is room for many more. The Agency Plain, adjoining the Haystack country, and the Warm Springs Indian agency, is a level plateau about six by eighteen miles in extent, covered with a rich, black soil which produces a heavy growth of bunchgrass. There is no water on the plain, but settlers are rapidly taking up its fertile acres, with the expectation that in the near future water will be pumped up from the Deschutes River, which borders it on the west, or be brooked in ditches from the east, and irrigated by means of a dam further up that stream. Scattered everywhere throughout this entire 104 townships wherever water and a few acres of tillable land may be found, are the homes and farms of our best and most contented, happy and prosperous people may be found anywhere.

Products of the County. Naturally, our chief products are those of the stock farm—cattle, horses, sheep and wool. The assessment roll for 1901, shows 156,231 sheep, 15,222 cattle and 10,400 horses in the county on March 1. This means that we produce more than a million and a half pounds of wool; that we raise more than enough hay to successfully winter the stock, and we sell the increase thereof each year, netting a fine income. Besides, we produce all the vegetables, fruits and cereals that the home market demands, or can use, and only the limited demand for the production of vastly increased quantities of all farm products. Apples, peaches, pears, plums, prunes and berries reach

the acre of perfection in favored localities an acre or more of them will produce more than half the county. Potatoes flourish here without irrigation as though it were their native habitat, an acre of which may be cleared in a matter of 12 "aters" exhibiting in Prineville weighing 21 pounds. Alfalfa produces from five to eight tons per acre each season, and is worth in the stack from \$5 to \$8, and when fed to best cattle will net the owner from \$6 to \$7 per ton, making a clear income of not less than \$30 per acre. This statement is based upon the actual experience of several farmers during the last few years. A 60-acre alfalfa farm is more valuable with far less labor and a smaller investment than a 200-acre wheat farm. No sowing, no plowing, no hauling the product to market; nothing but harvest from May to November. Wheat produces an average of about 20 bushels per acre and is worth from 70 cents per bushel to \$1.00, and when fed to best cattle will almost invariably produce well, and bring from 50 cents to \$1 per bushel. In fact, the price of all farm products, except hay, is from 10 to 20 per cent higher than on or near railroads.

Climate. For at least four-fifths of the year the skies are cloudless, with occasional rains from April to November. The temperature ranging in the 90s for a week or two during the hottest part of the Summer, and about zero generally for four or five days about the holidays. These are the extremes, and between these the climate is not excellent in Oregon. In the lower altitudes snow seldom falls to a greater depth than one foot, and rarely remains more than a week at a time until dissipated by gentle "chinkoo" winds. Snowing is done every month in the year, except January, February, and March, and in that month, cattle and sheep are fed from one to three months, owing to locality, and the season, formerly, before the ranges were fenced, the sheep were not fed at all. Grass on lawns in Prineville remains green throughout the year.

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The renewed energy with which prospectors and capital have delved into the Blue Mountain Range in search for its hidden wealth is best told by pointing to the vast amount of machinery shipped into all sections of Grant County where mining is being done. New ledges of solid worth are being unearthed and tunneled into every day. Almost every week some rich ledge is uncovered. Mines are now numbered by dozens that are paying and lasting propositions. The Bonanza mine, with an annual output of \$50,000, is second to no mine in Oregon. Mines that have an output of from \$5000 to \$25,000 are plentiful. Almost every week new mines are being bonded by outside capital. New mills are going up on many ledges, and with good paying ores and a plentiful supply of capital, the future of mining in Grant County is very flattering.

There has not been a year in the past 15 years when the whole people, from miner to farmer, stockraiser and laborer, have been so continuously employed at

disputed mistress of the commerce of the Pacific Northwest? Does she want to lose her place? Does she want to be supplanted by the wheat? Does she want to become the greatest wheat-shipping port in the world, to have a 40-foot channel at the bar and a 20-foot channel to the lower river? Yes, she will! Then seek ye first the opening of the dikes at Celilo, and all that that implies, and all these things will be added unto you.

With an open river the Inland Empire will furnish the raw material in wheat and stock and oil and ore to make all Oregon rich and great; and grand old Gilliam will be found in the front rank among the counties furnishing her share of this abundance and more. A word in conclusion to homeseekers. Under present conditions much of our wheat is hauled 50 miles by wagon and sold at 40 cents to 45 cents per bushel, and yet the men who raise it live and laugh and love life. They build good houses and big barns; they ride in bugies and buy pianos for their daughters. All this, too, without proper transportation facilities; but when the railroad comes—and it's coming—the Gilliam county population will be strictly "it." How can they do so now, you ask? Well, when you come to Gilliam County and be their neighbor, they will "put you next."

S. A. PATTON. Condon.

ANNUAL NORMAL RAINFALL OF THE PACIFIC COAST STATES.

The demand for farm lands is unprecedented. The holder of good agricultural lands can make a sale at prices from \$15 to \$50 per acre, according to location, quality and quantity. All he has to do is say he will sell and he gets his price. Reasonable offers. There is also a brisk demand for lots in John Day, all central locations being held at good round prices. Canyon City also was the scene of active business operations last year. The city is properly graded and graveled, good sidewalks are laid. Lots in favorable localities are held at good prices. Prairie City and several other towns have been building up rapidly for the past year.

No new departures in dairying were commenced last year, yet half a dozen enterprises in the Blue Mountain range, the best-paying industries in the county. The facilities for successful dairying cannot be excelled in Oregon.

Lumbering. The lumber business was quite active last season, consequent on the steady improvement all over the county. The smelter plant cost 150,000 feet; a new 20-stamp mill in course of erection four miles east of Canyon City, 200,000; the new dredge at John Day, 500,000; the schoolhouse at John Day, 100,000, besides other buildings of lesser importance.

Sales of stock and wool were as follows: Sheep sold, 40,000 head, \$50,000; wool sold, 1,200,000 pounds, value \$150,000; lambs raised, 100,000; cattle sold, 6,000, \$125,000; calves raised, 500, \$55,000; horses sold, 120, \$35,000; colts raised, 2,000, \$25,000.

Other products were: Lumber cut and sold, 6,000,000 feet—\$45,000. Hay produced, 30,000 tons—\$30,000. Grain threshed, 70,000 bushels—\$10,000. Fruit raised, 100,000 bushels—\$10,000. Potatoes, 100,000 bushels—\$20,000. Other vegetables—\$20,000.

For data from which to calculate the output of the placer and quartz mines, I will have to depend on amounts gleaned from the press from time to time, as the many letters sent out by me to the managers of mines, as well as to men who are gradually pushing the stock-raising industry last year. New houses, barns and outbuildings, besides clearing land, digging new and better irrigating ditches, preparatory to raising large crops and

During the season of 1900, Morrow County yielded 700,000 bushels of wheat, barley, rye and oats—of which 600,000 bushels will be exported and 100,000 bushels used for home consumption. This has been what is known among farmers as the "off year," and the acreage planted to grain

lived. From data gathered, I see the Bonanza mine credited with an output of \$50,000 for the year 1901, the Red Boy with an output of about \$30,000. I think it is not unreasonable to estimate the output of the gold field of that county at \$2,000,000; in fact, I believe it above that figure, and yet the mines of Grant are in their infancy. Within the next five years I expect to see an output of from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 a year from the mines of Grant County.

Without a foot of railroad, with about 250 miles of telephone lines, with every import and export carried on by the slow-plodding team, Grant County I believe is a gold field of profitable investment in lands and stock. With our pure mountain streams and dry, healthful atmosphere, our immense quantities of untouched timber land, our great grazing sections, with as rich and productive a soil as any on the Coast, with our growing educational facilities, with our ranges covered with wild game, and our horses, our homes supplied with the finest of beef, mutton, vegetables, fruit, milk, butter and honey, with our mines to produce the money to do business on a cash basis, Grant County is a desirable county to make a home.

JOHN C. LUCE. John Day City.

MORROW COUNTY. Rich in Mines, With a Soil That Promises Great Things. While the 290 square miles of territory embraced in Morrow County enjoys a beautiful share of Nature's blessings, it is also true that Nature herself, in conjunction with the overland railroad routes, has retarded the growth of this section in population, and consequently in the development of its rich and wonderful resources, as compared with other sections of the Pacific Coast. To those who already reside here, this assertion requires no explanation, but to the stranger it does.

Morrow County suffers from the first impression formed of it by the tourist and the Eastern immigrant. Having learned of the advantages and opportunities to be had in the farming and stockraising sections of Oregon, the Eastern man starts West with a hopeful picture in his mind's eye, hoping to soon view the actual paradise in which he shall cast his lot and make his future home. After crossing the timbered belts of Baker, Union and Umatilla Counties (if he comes via the Union Pacific), or passing through the beautiful Walla Walla Valley, in Washington (if he comes via the Northern route), he enters the Upper Columbia River Valley and straightaway begins to look around for the promised land. But lo, and behold! Instead of the rich, fertile, well-watered meadows, the rich, fertile valleys, the thrifty orchards, and the timbered hillsides which he had long looked for, there suddenly looms up before him a desolate and discolored country, the most miserable and desolate-looking country on the face of the earth.

While homed in by high, barren mountains on either side of the river, he stands along through an endless expanse of sand, which keeps a crew of men busy shoveling it from the railroad track and which, when the wind is blowing, makes life the same continual round of pleasure as that experienced in the Dakotas during a blizzard. Everything that is good and beautiful is hidden by the heat or blown out of root by the wind that apparently there is not a blade of green grass nor a green tree within a thousand miles of the river, and it would be a difficult matter to even raise a racket on all the good land in sight. Passing through this desolate canyon the traveler commences to appreciate the scenery of the Columbia River Valley from the Dalles to Portland or to the sea, which for beauty and grandeur exceeds anything of the kind to be found in the world.

But from the view of the Upper Columbia River Valley, as just described, the intending settler, who has been so impressed by Morrow County, as well as of the greater portion of Eastern Oregon. In his disgust, he gives this region a black eye, a black eye that passes on down the river to the Willamette Valley, to California or to the Puget Sound country, thus throwing away the diamond because its outer surface does not sparkle.

Further inquiry would have taught the Eastern man that only a few miles back from the river, on either side, lies one of the richest agricultural countries in the world, where the immense tracts of level, productive farming land, and the undulating hillsides, covered with nutritious grass, are measured by the mile. The northern boundary line of Morrow County, in which is located a portion of Eastern Oregon, is only a few miles from the river, and in the unwinning country above described, and this fact is no doubt responsible for the county not possessing twice or treble its present population.

Eleven Square Miles of Land for Each Inhabitant. At the last two or three general elections about 1150 votes have been polled in Morrow County, which implies that its population amounts to something over 5000. Although the State report gives credit with only 451. On a basis of 5000 population, there is land enough in Morrow County, if equally divided, to give every man, woman and child now residing in the county nearly 11 square miles of territory. There is evidently room for more people here. The county possesses the most fertile and nutritious acres of fine agricultural and grazing land which Uncle Sam is offering free to the homeseeker. True it is, that the best tracts of land throughout the county have already been taken up, but the main enough excellent claims to support hundreds of industrious families.

Notwithstanding the work of our natural enemies, the locusts, and the fact that the Eastern people are learning, through the New Year's editions of The Oregonian and other sources, the real facts concerning this region, and the fact that now coming in at a rapid rate. Not long ago 20 farmers came out from Missouri in one body and located claims near Lexington, and several other towns have been building up rapidly for the past year.

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Sales of stock and wool were as follows: Sheep sold, 40,000 head, \$50,000; wool sold, 1,200,000 pounds, value \$150,000; lambs raised, 100,000; cattle sold, 6,000, \$125,000; calves raised, 500, \$55,000; horses sold, 120, \$35,000; colts raised, 2,000, \$25,000.

Other season, may be accounted for the increased price and demand for all products of the farm. So great has been this demand that grain will have to be shipped in before next harvest, and potatoes also. The steady price of cattle, with an upward tendency, has stimulated both raisers and buyers to enlarge their holdings, and this means an increased demand for feed. For long every available acre of land that will produce hay will be farmed, and all winter range will be fenced, and the grass utilized during the winter season.

The renewed energy with which prospectors and capital have delved into the Blue Mountain Range in search for its hidden wealth is best told by pointing to the vast amount of machinery shipped into all sections of Grant County where mining is being done. New ledges of solid worth are being unearthed and tunneled into every day. Almost every week some rich ledge is uncovered. Mines are now numbered by dozens that are paying and lasting propositions. The Bonanza mine, with an annual output of \$50,000, is second to no mine in Oregon. Mines that have an output of from \$5000 to \$25,000 are plentiful. Almost every week new mines are being bonded by outside capital. New mills are going up on many ledges, and with good paying ores and a plentiful supply of capital, the future of mining in Grant County is very flattering.

There has not been a year in the past 15 years when the whole people, from miner to farmer, stockraiser and laborer, have been so continuously employed at

disputed mistress of the commerce of the Pacific Northwest? Does she want to lose her place? Does she want to be supplanted by the wheat? Does she want to become the greatest wheat-shipping port in the world, to have a 40-foot channel at the bar and a 20-foot channel to the lower river? Yes, she will! Then seek ye first the opening of the dikes at Celilo, and all that that implies, and all these things will be added unto you.

With an open river the Inland Empire will furnish the raw material in wheat and stock and oil and ore to make all Oregon rich and great; and grand old Gilliam will be found in the front rank among the counties furnishing her share of this abundance and more. A word in conclusion to homeseekers. Under present conditions much of our wheat is hauled 50 miles by wagon and sold at 40 cents to 45 cents per bushel, and yet the men who raise it live and laugh and love life. They build good houses and big barns; they ride in bugies and buy pianos for their daughters. All this, too, without proper transportation facilities; but when the railroad comes—and it's coming—the Gilliam county population will be strictly "it." How can they do so now, you ask? Well, when you come to Gilliam County and be their neighbor, they will "put you next."

S. A. PATTON. Condon.

ANNUAL NORMAL RAINFALL OF THE PACIFIC COAST STATES.

The demand for farm lands is unprecedented. The holder of good agricultural lands can make a sale at prices from \$15 to \$50 per acre, according to location, quality and quantity. All he has to do is say he will sell and he gets his price. Reasonable offers. There is also a brisk demand for lots in John Day, all central locations being held at good round prices. Canyon City also was the scene of active business operations last year. The city is properly graded and graveled, good sidewalks are laid. Lots in favorable localities are held at good prices. Prairie City and several other towns have been building up rapidly for the past year.

No new departures in dairying were commenced last year, yet half a dozen enterprises in the Blue Mountain range, the best-paying industries in the county. The facilities for successful dairying cannot be excelled in Oregon.

Lumbering. The lumber business was quite active last season, consequent on the steady improvement all over the county. The smelter plant cost 150,000 feet; a new 20-stamp mill in course of erection four miles east of Canyon City, 200,000; the new dredge at John Day, 500,000; the schoolhouse at John Day, 100,000, besides other buildings of lesser importance.

Sales of stock and wool were as follows: Sheep sold, 40,000 head, \$50,000; wool sold, 1,200,000 pounds, value \$150,000; lambs raised, 100,000; cattle sold, 6,000, \$125,000; calves raised, 500, \$55,000; horses sold, 120, \$35,000; colts raised, 2,000, \$25,000.

Other products were: Lumber cut and sold, 6,000,000 feet—\$45,000. Hay produced, 30,000 tons—\$30,000. Grain threshed, 70,000 bushels—\$10,000. Fruit raised, 100,000 bushels—\$10,000. Potatoes, 100,000 bushels—\$20,000. Other vegetables—\$20,000.

For data from which to calculate the output of the placer and quartz mines, I will have to depend on amounts gleaned from the press from time to time, as the many letters sent out by me to the managers of mines, as well as to men who are gradually pushing the stock-raising industry last year. New houses, barns and outbuildings, besides clearing land, digging new and better irrigating ditches, preparatory to raising large crops and

lived. From data gathered, I see the Bonanza mine credited with an output of \$50,000 for the year 1901, the Red Boy with an output of about \$30,000. I think it is not unreasonable to estimate the output of the gold field of that county at \$2,000,000; in fact, I believe it above that figure, and yet the mines of Grant are in their infancy. Within the next five years I expect to see an output of from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 a year from the mines of Grant County.

Without a foot