

which are manufactured fish barrels and kegs of all descriptions. There are two excellent schools back of Brookfield. Hon. J. G. Megier has his cannery at Brookfield, which is one of the largest and finest on the coast. The Cannery at Brookfield is located the Pillar Rock cannery, owned by Everding & Farrell and John Harrington. It is a finely equipped up-to-date cannery, and does a good business.

Gray's River and Deep River, at the lower end of the county, are flourishing farming communities, and there is a large logging out on both rivers. Gray's River will run about 12,000,000 feet this year. There are several good country stores here, which do a thriving business; there are good schools and churches. There is quite a large community of Plains on Deep River. They are progressive and good neighbors, and are now building a new church.

S. G. WILLIAMS, Skamokawa.

**PACIFIC COUNTY.**

**Cattle-Raising and Dairying Are Becoming Important Pursuits.**

Pacific County occupies the southwestern extreme of Washington. Its population, which is daily increasing, is about 2600. Its area covers five hundred and fifty square miles, comprising a quantity of rich alluvial bottom land, a vast section of rich timber, and a succession of the most fertile and picturesque valleys and rolling uplands. The state which is entirely adapted to fruit culture, grating and dairying. The soil is a rich, dark loam of surprising depth, with generally a clay subsoil. It yields most bountiful crops of cereals, hops, grasses, fruits and vegetables, and will produce almost anything.

There are ten rivers in Pacific County, seven emptying into Willapa Harbor, I. e., the Willapa, Falla, Bear, Nacole, Cedar, Nema, Home and North Rivers, and into the Columbia, the Wallcut and Chinook Rivers. As a result, the extent of rich bottom land along so many streams is remarkably large, logging is cheaper and timber more accessible than in any other county, and the communication is so much more convenient than where more roads are necessary and difficult to make passable.

Perhaps the most authoritative and careful estimate of the timber resources of the state was made by Henry Gannett, chief Geographer of the United States Geological Survey, and it appears in the nineteenth Congress and the weather department. According to Pacific County is the heaviest timbered county in the state in proportion to its size. There are other counties which have more timber, but they are invariably counties of twice or three times the size of Pacific and they do not have timber in proportion thereto. The assessed estimate calls for over 700,000 feet of timber of a merchantable size and quality, or more than the present 10 saw and shingle mills in the county could make into lumber and shingles in two centuries. Furthermore, the county lies in what is known as the "fog belt," which all timbermen who have investigated the matter, know to be an advantage, as extensive forest fires are almost impossible, due to the dense undergrowth almost tropical in its luxuriance, which practically never dries out enough to permit fire to run to any great extent. As for climate, G. N. Salisbury, section director of the Weather Bureau, located at Seattle, says:

"Pacific County may fairly be said to possess a mild and equable climate. During the winter months it is the warmest locality in the state, as is fully and decisively shown by the Weather Bureau records for many years, and in the summer months there are no protracted hot spells, but the air is generally balmy and delightful.

"By the term 'equable,' as applied to climate, is understood a freedom from sudden and violent changes of weather, and a small range of difference in temperature from day to day and month to month. The average range of temperature between the warmest and coldest months in Pacific County is only 47 degrees, the mean temperature for the warmest month being about 60 degrees, and the coldest about 40 degrees. Snow is an extremely rare occurrence and remains but a short time.

**Good Markets for Dairy Products.**  
With such a climate it is but natural that cattle-raising is becoming more important than any other agricultural pursuit in the county and with it the dairying business. It has been found that cattle need only to be fed for three months in the year, and there are a number of farmers who do not raise any cattle at all, but let them graze throughout the year. The establishment of the creamery at Menlo three years ago has been a great impetus to the dairying throughout the county. Those who could not send their milk to the creameries have bought separators and the old rancher butcheries, which were once so common, no longer appear in any form in this county. Owing to the number of logging camps and small mill towns now in the county the farmer here has a home market for all his produce and comparatively little is shipped out. We have had our hogs in town lots and in timber lands, but a more substantial boom has now commenced in the demand for agricultural lands. It is estimated that the success which the progressive farmers of this section have made of their business. Angora goat raising in the county is plain in its infancy. A few farmers have purchased goats and comparatively little is shipped out. We have had our hogs in town lots and in timber lands, but a more substantial boom has now commenced in the demand for agricultural lands. It is estimated that the success which the progressive farmers of this section have made of their business. Angora goat raising in the county is plain in its infancy. A few farmers have purchased goats and comparatively little is shipped out. We have had our hogs in town lots and in timber lands, but a more substantial boom has now commenced in the demand for agricultural lands. It is estimated that the success which the progressive farmers of this section have made of their business.

**Lumber and Agriculture.**  
Lumbering is the greatest industry at the present time. Henry Gannett estimates that there are more than 8,500,000,000 feet of standing timber in the county, only three other counties in the state having more timber than this. There are 20 saw mills in Lewis County, capable of cutting 120,000,000 feet annually, and 10 shingle mills, which can turn out 1,000,000 shingles daily. Chehalis, Centralia, Winlock and Napavine, on the main line of the railway and Puget Sound, on the branch, are the principal milling centers. The past season has been a very busy one in the lumber woods, every mill running to its full capacity, with an active market for all the lumber. Most of the Lewis County mills are well equipped and modern in every way. It is estimated that 150 men are regularly employed at lumbering.

**Cultivation of Eastern Oysters.**  
With the oystermen it is no longer a question of market, but of getting the oysters to market. The demand is so great that the oyster firms have already gone into the business of raising and shipping Eastern oysters—M. Wachsmuth, of Oysterville, and the Willapa Harbor Oyster Company, located at Tokeland, from whence the celebrated Toke Point oysters come. They have imported from the East during the past year nine carloads of young oysters. The oysters here are grown up with a half a carload. They are so constricted beyond a doubt that there is money in Eastern oyster culture in Willapa Bay, and others are preparing to enter into it. The hundreds of acres of clam-beds here have never been exploited, and one of the greatest opportunities for anyone versed in the difficult art of cultivating oysters is right here in Pacific County. The claims are largely of an excellent variety, transplanted here years ago, and now they have spread all over the bay. The supply is inexhaustible. The ocean beach of the town of Chinook has done in seemingly unlimited quantities, and it has been only a few years that they have been shipped to Portland and other points.

What, with the salmon fisheries on the Columbia shore of the county and on Willapa harbor, the logging industry and

sawmills, the oysterings, the bathing beach, both on the ocean and bay, the beef cattle-raising, the dairying and general farming, the industries and resources of the county are perhaps more varied than in any other county in the state, and no such general depression in business is possible here as in counties where the prosperity of the people depends upon one crop, or industry. The fish crop, the oyster crop, the crop of Summer resorters, the demand for logs, beef, for butter, or the crops of grass, wheat and potatoes, never have failed all in the same year, and never will. The result is that there are always some vocations in the county which are paying, though others may be depressed. No one who has lived here any length of time has failed to note this feature and the immense advantage that it is.

**Opportunities for Settlers.**

As for the openings in Pacific County for settlers and investors, there are the grazing lands, whose value is just beginning to be appreciated, and which can be turned into productive farms, though not without hard work and considerable capital. The best land is still unrented and can be had from the Government under the homestead law. The marshes, where they occur, can be turned into cranberry marshes, the Pacific Cranberry Company and others having demonstrated that a superior grade of berries can be raised here at a profit. The Eastern oyster business is only in its infancy. There are never will. The result is that there are always some vocations in the county which are paying, though others may be depressed. No one who has lived here any length of time has failed to note this feature and the immense advantage that it is.

Other industries connected with the lumbering business, and now unrepresented in the county, might be mentioned, such as a pulp and paper mill, a furniture factory, a broom-handle factory to utilize the alder and hemlock, and a tannery and a cedar sawmill.

**LEWIS COUNTY.**

**Thirty Saw Mills Having a Capacity of 170,000,000 Feet Annually.**

Lewis and Clark Counties are the two oldest organized counties in the State of Washington. They were named after the explorers, Lewis and Clark, who crossed the continent nearly 130 years ago. Lewis County has been organized nearly 50 years, Chehalis, at the junction of the Chehalis and Newaukum Rivers, is the county seat and most important city. Lewis County is 26 miles in width from north to south, and about 90 miles long from east to west, the eastern line being the summit of the Cascade Mountains. The area of the county is about 2300 square miles; the assessed acreage of land is 683,513 acres, and the number of acres returned by the Assessor as improved land is 28,782. The total value placed on the county by the Assessor in 1900 was \$6,954,300.

The Chehalis and the Cowlitz Rivers are the principal streams of the county. The Chehalis River heads in the Coast Range, and flows in a northerly direction, and the Cowlitz River, which flows north a few miles and then west toward the Pacific Ocean, is the largest river in Lewis County. The Cowlitz River rises in the snow-covered mountains of Eastern Lewis County and follows a general western course through the county, a distance of 100 miles until it reaches a point about 20 miles from the western boundary, where it flows south through Cowlitz County and empties into the Columbia River. The Cowlitz River is 20 miles in length, and the Lewis County and much of the farm produce of that part of the county is shipped to market on the steamers. There are many shingle mills and log rafts on the lower down the streams. The western half of the county is comparatively level. There are wide stretches of farming land and the soil is rich and fertile. There are no hills or mountains in Lewis County, and the land is level along all of the streams; little prairies dot the higher lands and the brush lands are rapidly being cleared by industrious settlers. The eastern half of the county is more mountainous, gradually becoming more mountainous toward the eastern end of the county, with only narrow valleys of farming land along the lower slopes of the mountains. The land at present that is available for settlement, but land values are low, and the man with a small amount of money who is desirous of making a home can buy much cheaper than in any other county in the Pacific Northwest.

**CLARK COUNTY.**

**Last Year the Prune Crop Amounted to 7,500,000 Pounds.**

Opposite the mouth of the Willamette River, in the bend of the Columbia River, lies Clark County, on the western slope of the Cascade Mountains, a part of the State of Washington.

The character of the country varies from the low alluvial bottom lands along the

river, which usually overflow at the time of the June rise, to the level plateaus and swales of the higher benches, these being succeeded in turn by the rolling foothills with interlying valleys, which again give place to the higher hills and peaks found along the eastern border of the county. Clark County extends from the Columbia River, which forms its southern boundary and separates it from Oregon, to the Lewis River on the north, a distance of about 25 miles, and from the Columbia River on the west to the Cascades on the east, a distance of about 45 miles. In addition to the two rivers forming its southern, western and northern boundary, it has numerous other rivers and smaller streams interspersed at frequent intervals



MAP SHOWING THE PACIFIC COAST WHEAT DISTRICT.

of the road. Chehalis reaps a large measure of benefit from the branch. Located as the town is at the confluence of two of the best farming valleys, the Chehalis and Newaukum, it is the trade center of more than half the people of the county. At no distant day mining will become one of the largest, probably the largest, industries of the county. The St. Helens mining district in North Skamania County and Southeastern Lewis is proving rich in copper, gold and silver, is rapidly passing the development stage, and will soon become a producer. The district is tributary to Chehalis and Toledo, on the Cowlitz River in Southern Lewis County. Besides the St. Helens mines there are vast deposits of coal in the eastern part of the county, and prospecting is being done on an extensive scale. Several veins of great thickness and fine quality are being opened up, and it will only be a question of a little time until railroads penetrate the coal mines as well as the St. Helens mining district. J. C. BUSIL.

place in which to make a permanent home. Notwithstanding the fact that Clark County lies on the western slope of the Cascade Mountains a large part of its area is comparatively flat, and fully four-fifths of its entire area will ultimately be brought into successful and profitable cultivation. Lying along the Columbia River and adjacent to some of the other streams are thousands of acres of low alluvial lands which rival the famed Nile in productiveness, caused by the character of the soil and the frequent overflows. As a rule these bottom lands will produce a crop after the water caused by the melting snows in the Rocky Mountains has receded. They are admirably adapted to stock-raising and the production of vegetables, the nature of a swale. These lands are very rich and productive. In addition to stock-raising, they are made to produce grains, grasses and vegetables in great abundance, and the convenient market is favorable to success, no matter which of these products is grown.

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County is noted for the immense quantities of prunes of unsurpassed quality that are raised here.

The prune crop of Clark County for 1901 reached an output of not less than 250 carloads, of 15 tons each, or not less than 1,500,000 pounds, which alone brought into the county about \$200,000, and the acreage now planted will within the next five years nearly double the output.

The prunes grown in Clark County are the Italian variety, and owing to the peculiar climatic conditions they reach a very large size here, and have a flavor peculiar to the Clark County product alone.

The question is frequently asked, "Is there money in raising prunes?" Much depends upon the way that the business is managed, and it can be most effectually answered by the statement that one grower having an orchard of 18 acres cleared \$950 above all expenses the past season.

A word about prune culture may not be amiss at this time. About 100 grafted trees are planted to the acre, and in five years after setting these trees may bear a small crop, but it is best not to expect returns before the seventh year, when a fair crop of good-sized fruit ought to be gathered. The orchards are kept well cultivated from the time that the ground becomes dry in the Spring until the 15th of July. In the Winter the trees are pruned, and it is usually well to raise a fertilizing plant on the ground to be plowed under each season. The real work of pruning comes when the crop has been harvested. The fruit is shaken from the trees, picked into boxes and hauled to the dryer. There it is dipped and washed, then spread upon trays and placed in the evaporator, where artificial heat is applied till the fruit is well cured. There are at present over 300 prune-drying plants in Clark County alone, capable of drying all the way from three to thirty tons of green fruit per day. Of these two are steam dryers, probably the only two in the country, one of which is without a doubt the largest and best in the West. The other plant in the United States devoted to prune-drying. As dried prunes are among the most healthful of fruits, it is believed that this industry is yet in its infancy, and that on account of the superior quality of the fruit raised here that eventually many times the amount now grown will be produced.

At the past season a new departure for this season has been inaugurated in this county in the way of preparing and packing the fruit for market. Heretofore fruit has been packed in boxes or shingles, and is marketed just as it came from the dryers, but two large processing plants have just been erected, which are handling this year's crop. In these the fruit is graded, after which it is packed in a special container at high temperature and packed while hot. This not only gives it a much finer appearance, but prevents it from sugaring, and when all fruit raised will hereafter be treated in this way.

In addition to the industries already referred to, the forests of Clark County are one of the principal resources, and the industry of converting the magnificent trees into lumber in future, as in the past, is destined to give employment to many men and to bring much wealth into the county.

**Plenty of Lumber for Export.**  
A good part of the area of the county was originally covered with a heavy growth of timber. Much of this was cut off and burned to clear the ground, but now that lumber is in demand for foreign shipment and to supply the prairie states, it is cleared off chiefly to be converted into lumber. There is still left a large area which is covered with heavy timber, fitted to make lumber of the best quality. The industry of converting the magnificent trees into lumber in future, as in the past, is destined to give employment to many men and to bring much wealth into the county.

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**Vancouver Barracks.**  
Here is located the military post, known as Vancouver Barracks, where accommodations are provided for about 700 soldiers. The headquarters of the Department of the Columbia are also connected with the post. The city is frequently visited by Army officers, as one of the prettiest and most picturesque and pleasant in the United States.

One of the state institutions, styled, the Soldiers' Home, is located on the east side of the city. It includes besides a building for the feeble-minded, a much larger structure in which the blind and deaf and dumb are instructed.

The Army post and the state institutions, together with the Catholic orphanage, in which about 100 orphans are cared for, provides a very good home market for the products of the soil.

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The business houses of the city represent nearly all classes of trade, and are enjoying a fair degree of prosperity. Besides the usual lines of business, there are two banks, good hotels, and two theaters.

On account of lack of transportation facilities, other than by boat, it has been impracticable to establish manufacturing plants at this point. The building of railroads will be changed and Vancouver will offer superior advantages for manufacturers to locate here.

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Here is located the military post, known as Vancouver Barracks, where accommodations are provided for about 700 soldiers. The headquarters of the Department of the Columbia are also connected with the post. The city is frequently visited by Army officers, as one of the prettiest and most picturesque and pleasant in the United States.

One of the state institutions, styled, the Soldiers' Home, is located on the east side of the city. It includes besides a building for the feeble-minded, a much larger structure in which the blind and deaf and dumb are instructed.

The Army post and the state institutions, together with the Catholic orphanage, in which about 100 orphans are cared for, provides a very good home market for the products of the soil.

The city has good public schools, a Catholic College, and numerous churches, comparing favorably in this respect with Eastern cities of like size.

The business houses of the city represent nearly all classes of trade, and are enjoying a fair degree of prosperity. Besides the usual lines of business, there are two banks, good hotels, and two theaters.

On account of lack of transportation facilities, other than by boat, it has been impracticable to establish manufacturing plants at this point. The building of railroads will be changed and Vancouver will offer superior advantages for manufacturers to locate here.

Vancouver is enjoying general prosperity. The volume of business being the best in the history of the place. There are no vacant houses or stores, and there has been considerable activity in building during the year, so much so in fact that mechanics have been in active demand.

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Vancouver is one of the prettiest small cities in the State of Washington, situated on the north bank of the Columbia River, six miles from Portland, with which it is connected with an electric line and ferry crossed at intervals of 35 minutes. It takes about one hour to make the trip. It is also connected with Portland and other points on the Columbia River by the Willamette River, all reaching at Vancouver.

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**Last Year the Prune Crop Amounted to 7,500,0**