GREAT YEAR IN HOPS

Growers Receive Over \$3,000,000 for Their 1902 Product-Small Increase in Acreage.

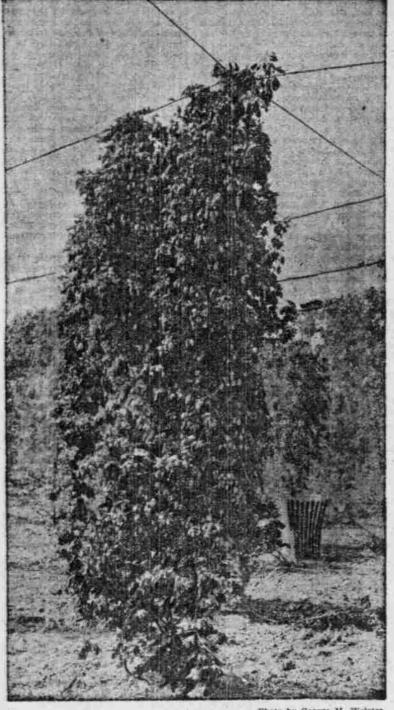
HE success of hopgrowing in Oregon climate and soil. Relying upon the favors of Nature, a large majority of the growers have given but comparatively little attention to cultivation, spraying and curing. In the last year or two, however, there has been an improvement in this regard and growers are beginning to exercise that care and attention which have long been essential to success in less favored localities. An industry which has been a profitable one for the state under the methods, or lack of method, in the past, will be a still greater producer of wealth under the more favorable system upon which the growers have entered.

The importance of the industry is shown by the financial results of the crop of 1902. The total yield, as estimated while the hops are yet on the way to market, was \$5,000 bales, of an average weight of 158 pounds, making total product 15,980,600 pounds. A portion of this crop was sold by contract before picking time at from 10 to 12 cents a pound, and the remainder was disposed of after picking at prices ranging from 15 to 25 cents a pound. The tal value of the crop was \$4,000,000, of which sum the growers, by reason of selling at less than the top price, recolved about \$3,250,000. The crop lacked considerable of being a full yield and averaged about 900 pounds per acre. The cost of production was about 8 cents pound, so that at an average selling price of 20 cents a pound there was a net profit to the grower of 12 cents a pound, or \$108 an acre. In many instances this year the net profit on a hop crop was enough to pay for the land upon which the hops were grown. Many a grower who last year bought a yard on time was enabled in one season's work to pay off his indebtedness, leaving him the owner of a comfortable, unincumbered home.

The increase in acreage in hopgrowing in this state during the last year has not been great and is worthy of attention principally because of the decrease that has taken place in other hop-producing sections of the world. For a number of years the acreage in hops in England has been steadily decreasing, and the latest advices from that country contain the information that large numbers of growers have become discouraged and are grubbing out their yards. The tendency has been in the same direction, though less marked, in New York, which is the only hop-producing state in the eastern part of the United States. In the last 15 years Oregon has forged shead in hopgrowing, until in 1902 this state produced nearly half the entire hop crop of the United States. It is already certain that the increase in acreage in this state in 1993 will amount to not less than 10 per cent, so that Oregon will make up for any decrease in other sections of this country.

The development of the industry in this state has been due to no other causes than the relatively low cost of productoms make it possible to grow enormous quality has been superior.

has led the growers in years past to All the leading growers have made it improved. rely too much upon Nature, while they their custom to spray their vines with The history of the development of the been a great money-circulator, and as



-Photo by George M. Welster. AN OREGON HOP VINE.

seeson of 1962, has witnessed a great im- | of damaging mold and a good crop pracprovement in this particular. Instead tically insured. As there are no heavy tion. The rich soils of the river bot- formerly the almost universal custom, the growers are adopting the permanent crope without the use of a pound of system of an overhead wire from which fertilizers. Irrigation in the hopgrowing strings are suspended for the support section of the state is made unnecessary of the vines. More thorough and freby the abundance of rain during the Win- quent cultivation has become general and ter and Spring, which fills the ground there are fewer yards that are allowed Fuel for curing is cheap, as been made, for, in the present view

The last two seasons, and particularly the loops are protected from the possibility of using a pole for each hill, as was winds in Summer in the hopgrowing section of Oregon to damage the vines, growers who pursue the most up-to-date methods of caring for their crops are therefore, apparent that it will not be certain of a satisfactory yield every wise to increase the acreage in Oregon

Great progress has also been made in minished in other parts of the world. A the methods pursued in curing hops. with moisture to supply the needs of to become weedy. It is in spraying, Having learned by several years of exthe plants during the warm dry growing however, that the greatest advance has perience how to operate a kiln so as to sary, can make a greater success here preserve in the hops the greatest proporalso is the timber needed for poles. In of hopgrowing, spraying is necessary to tion of the essential constituents, the here and engage in that industry, but it no other place in the United States can insure a crop of unimpaired quality. In growers are turning out a better cured would be folly to encourage those not so large a crop be grown at so small a year of early and continued Fall rains, product than they ever have before. In- familiar with the occupation to come a relative cost. Taken one year with hops are almost certain to be infested stead of baling the hops as soon as here and engage in growing hops. As a another the quality of the Oregon product with the hop louse, which, getting into they are cured, it is becoming the pracother states and in several years the Moldy hops are not choice in quality and weeks or more while they are going attractive to homeseekers, for it gives if the quantitity of mold be very great through a "sweat." In this manner also assurance of contributing to the pros-It is this low cost of production that the crop may be almost a total loss, the quality of the Oregon hop is being perity of every community in which it

hegiect some of the means which might a solution of quassia chips and whale be employed to insure a yield of good oil soap as a preventative of the multi-quality, at a cost but slightly increased. pilcation of vermin. In this way the

when the growers sold their hops for less than the cost of production and there have been times when they sold for prices which yielded fabulous profits. Those growers who were not carried into extravagances by the success of one year or driven out of the business by the failure of another, but who have followed a conservative course in trying to raise a good crop of hops every year, have been abundantly successful. The awakening to the fact that the skill of the grower must be brought to the aid of the ideal conditions of climate and soll is one of the most reaseuring features of the industry at present. The time has not yet arrived when the use of artificial fertilizers is necessary in the hopyards of Oregon. That it will come sooner or later to the growers on the less fertile lands is probable, but the yards located on the rich alluvial soils of the river bottoms will go on yielding enormous crops with no other aid than cultivation.

Substantial recognition of the future of hopgrowing in Oregon is shown in the purchase of hopyards by hopdealers. This is a change that has taken place in the last two or three years and in the past year some of the best-known buyers on the Coast have invested in hop land. This is a movement which is particularly pleasing to the growers for the reason that the interests of the buyers are becoming more identified with those of the growers and the latter may reasonably tope to fare better in securing a market for their hops. The advantage to the industry in general will be that the dealers have a better appreciation of the value of quality than has the average grower and they may be expected to raise the standard of the quality of hops in this state, and there has been an advance in this respect in the past year is indicated by the fact that Oregon hops properly picked and cured this year are the equal of any in the country so far as quality is concerned.

The great value of the hopgrowing industry to the state lies in the large amount of money which it distributes each year to those who need it most. The hop harvest requires the employment of an army of 25,000 to 30,000 persons. Men, women and children engage in hoppicking. Families move from the city to the country in the harvest time and live in tents while working in the yards. Employment is thus given to practically all who want it and particularly to those who are not strong enough to engage in heavier work. Of the \$1,250,000 which it cost to produce the hop crop of 1992, practically all of it went into the hands of those who worked in the cultivation of the yards or the harvesting of the crop. After all expenses are paid, the growers have a large profit left, and the dealers, by purchasing judiciously, have also made good margins and everyone who has been con-nected with the industry in any way has made money. It is because of this fact that a considerable increase in the acreage of hops will take place next season. Oregon cannot hold out to the residents of Eastern states the inducement of a splendid opportunity to engage in the hop industry here. The market for hops is a limited one and a surplus in the production means a drop in prices. The hop production of the world is about equal to the demand for the manufacture of beer, yeast, medicines, etc. any faster than the acreage can be diman who can make a success of hopgrowing in a state where fertilization is necesand he may well be encouraged to come is established. The industry has always

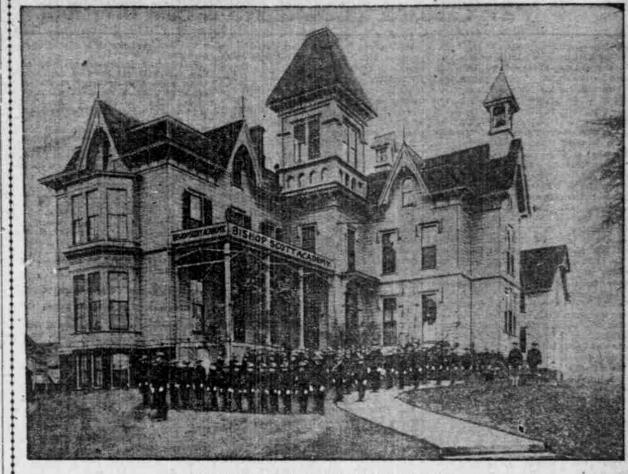
enable them to choose a location for themselves; but the main effort is to secure producers on the theory that there will be no difficulty in getting people to start stores, banks, etc., as the opportunity presents itself.

In connection with the immigration work there is a considerable force of clerks in Mr. McKinney's office constantly busy in answering letters and sending out printed matter, and occasionally when the opportunity presents itself a feature is made of exhibits at county fairs, etc. This work is more systematically prose cuted than it ever was before, and a large volume of immigration of the very best class is assured for the coming year.

What Can Be Done With Pork. There is no better opportunity for money-making in Oregon than in the production of pork. Oregon imports a carlead of pork a day from the East, notwithstanding the fact that pork con be produced as cheaply here as anywhere. Wheat has been selling at 60 cents a bushel, and even less, when it has been demonstrated that it is worth 75 cents a bushel for hog feed.

Good for the Producers. Every dollar expended in improving the Columbia River has returned five dollars to the producers of the Columbia River basin, who are dependent largely upon the market they secure through Portland. The river improvement is to continue Portland will continue to be a great shipping point.

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It will be the schools where hundreds of young hearts and minds have been molded. The product of the church of the church of the church of the church is an infirmary, where cases of contalgous diseases may be inolated from the school.

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It will be the schools with ministry that the school will be school to the church of the

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meyer, dancing and deportment; Mrs. H. B. Augur, housekeeper; Mrs. Inex Martin, matron; and George F. Wilson, school physician.

Studies will be resumed after the holidays, January S. 1863. Send for catalogue and for other information at once. Address Dr. J. W. Hill, principal, Portland, Or.

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ional withdrawals of considerable tracts. The tendency is more notable than ever from the Middle West than from the ex-

LANDS FOR ALL COMERS

25,000 New Settlers During the Past Year.

Great Area of Unoccupied Territory in Oregon-

the Government. Two or three provisis not to be said, of course, that all the remaining land is suitable for settlement. As a matter of fact, most of this remaining area is not desirable for homes unto unusual improvements have been made upon it. It must be reclaimed by the introduction of water and the practice of irrigation. And a part of the land is too rough and rocky ever to be tilled. Good homesteads may yet be obtained in localities rather remote from transportation lines, but they are not as plentiful as would be inferred from the bald statement that nearly half the area of the state is still public domain.

There is water for all the arid land. but to get this water upon the land usually involves the construction of works requiring more or less capital. When this land is once reclaimed to cultivation it will maintain a denser population than the average country that does not require artificial watering. But Oregon is a state of great extent, and has many varieties of climate, soil and productions, and in every section of the state there are opportunities for the home-builder and the man of capital and business talents. Vast tracts not now occupied will become the seat of prosperous industries and a numerous population. If all of Oregon were as densely settled as is the anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania, it would contain 40 per cent more inhabitants than are now in all the United States. Large areas of the state will never be thus occupied, but more land than is in all of Pennsylvania may be cultivated in Ocegon. Pennsylvania has about 6,500,000 peo- the state. Every head of family that ple; Oregon, 500,000.

It is estimated that 25,000 people have come to Oregon and established themselves as residents of the state within the past year—the state has gained that many citizens from outside. But the immigration propaganda organized by the Harriman lines of railroad has only gotten its forces fairly in the field, and the results from that work are yet to come,

REGON'S superficial land area is ed with the country and the people, and became dissatisfied with their condition 61,277,440 acres, nearly half of which nearly every county on the Southern Pa- and desired a change, but owing to the still belongs to the public domain.

That is, after deduction of all the rallroad and wagon road grants, all the forest and Indian reserves and all the land

still belongs to the public domain.

The is, after deduction of all the rallroad and wagon road grants, all the forest and Indian reserves and all the land

complied and sent for distribution in the

to move. With the resumption of good taken by private entry, there still remains fully 25,000,000 acres belonging to story that will be truly and reliably informing, and good results are assured. extreme West is settled more largely which are expected to be created into before for each citizen to constitute him- treme East. People in the Atlantic Coast forest reserves in Eastern Oregon leave self an immigration agent, and the re- States, and as far west as Ohio, who find some uncertainty as to just the area still suit of the combined effort along these themselves prepared to make a change, subject to entry in the land offices. It lines cannot fall to be of advantage to go to Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska

OATS AND BARLEY. Shipments of the Former Were Heaviest on Record. Shipments of oats from Portland were the heaviest that have ever been made from Portland in a single year, reaching a total of \$22,881 bushels, valued at \$401,689. In detail the shipments for the year were as follows: Yeases. For.
Adato-Menila
Thyra-Heng Kong
Quito-Manila
Oceano-Cape Town
Gienessiln-East London,
Polhamball- U. K. f. o.
Indravelli-Hong Kong
Ancenis-Cape Town.
Various-San Francisco. .921,991 The shipments of barley for the year were 724,979 bushels, valued at \$189,652. In detail the barley shipments were as follows:

comes into the state probably means an average of \$500 in cash value added to of education, carried on in the country the taxable property of the state; 100,000 districts where comparatively little is familles would mean \$50,000,000 added to heard of it, the effort being almost enthe wealth of Oregon, and would ma- tirely along the lines of getting people to terially assist in the development and come to the state who will cultivate the support of all public institutions, increase land, and consequently produce some representation in Congress, and put the thing to ship. Of course, in working state in position to secure public works, among such people, contact is had with such as the opening of the Columbia others who desire to establish themselves digration Agent G. M. McKinney, with River, of inestimable value. This growth in commercial or manufacturing business, a corps of assistants, spent a few weeks would make Oregon great.

In Oregon last Summer, getting acquaint
During hard times in the East people ple or give them such information as will

where they find lands cheaper and perhaps better than those they had owned, and find there people who moved years before who are ready to sell their holdings and move still farther west. The tendency seems always to be westwird, probably because of cheaper lands in the West than in the East. The best field, therefore, for securing immigration to the Pacific Northwest is Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee and states west to and including North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. For this reason the Harriman Lines Immigration Bureau is confining its efforts very largely to ********************************** that section. General Immigration Agent Mckinney, whose headquarters is in Chicago, has in the field traveling immigration agents located at Detroit, Indianapolis, Des Moines, Kansas City and Chicago, and from these central points the sections most productive of immigration are well covered. In working for immigration, as a preliminary, printed matter descriptive of Oregon is sent to a very large mailing list, composed almost entirely of the names of farmers. This gives rise to correspondence, which is followed up by personal visits, and where the interest menifested is sufficient public lectures, illustrated by stereopticon views, are given, Where people do not find it convenient to vait the country in search of a location, an effort is made to determine what kind of land they wish to buy and at what price, and the people are placed in nce with reliable real estate correspo agents. The work is simply a campaign

and other states in the Middle West,

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