# Phases of Industrial Growth in the Pacific Northwest

# APPLES OF MILTON **BECOMING FAMOUS**

Wonderful Commercial Possibilities of Valley Drawing Orchardists.

BIG GAINS IN FEW YEARS

Scientific Cultivation and Care of Crops and Judicious Irrigating Have Made Lands Equal to Any in Entire Northwest.

BY BRUCE SHANGLE.
MILITON, Or., July 11.—(Special.)—Although one of the oldest settled districts in either Oregon or Washington, the Milton-Freewater country, situated in the eastern end of Umatilla county, 12 miles across the state line from Walla Walla, is regarded from the standpoint of fruitgrowing as a "new" and undeveloped territory. This aspect of the valley has been derived largely from the fact that during the half century and more that the Milton-Freewater country has been settled, it has been almost entirely a grain and hay-producing center. But few orchards have been planted here until the past two or three years, the original settlers of lands adjacent being wholly employed in the culture of cereals and

Present condition, however, present an entirely new appearance to the new-comer from that shown five years ago When the first of the few venturesome husbandmen planted their apple or-chards, they were discouraged on every hand, for it was not thought at all pos-sible to grow a marketable apple in this valley. It was said the climatic conditions were such as to encourage pests and destroy for marketing purposes all the fruit of this variety grown here. Spray-ing was unknown, for its use was deem-ed useless and money thrown away. But things have changed to a marked degree, and now it is an acknowledged fact that there is no country on earth so es-pecially adapted to the growth and culture of the Winesap, Rome Beauty and Jonanthan apple as is this territory ad-jacent to Milton and Freewater. The soil seems to possess the exact qualities required to bring our the richest color and flavor in this fruit, and in conse quence hundreds of acres of apple or-chards have been planted during the past two years. It will require from five to seven years to secure returns from these orchards, but once they become bearing their value is practically un-

#### Wealth From Old Trees.

At the present time the wealth which is annually derived from the apple crop in this vicinity comes from orchards 10, 15 and 25 years old. These have been trimmed and sprayed until they are now capable of producing handsome revenues and the fruit taken from orchards in this locality now stands in the front rank in any market in the world. Five years ago these same orchards were an eyesore to the fruit growers and their appearance did much to keep out progressive spirits in the horbeen large quantities of strawberries grown here for a number of years, but these were not properly picked nor packed and hence failed to make the showing in outside markets that they are now making. Peaches, cherries and prunes have also been grown here to a certain extent but the marketing of these fruits has been so similar to that of the strawberry, that the Mil ton-Freewater section has not become as famous from a fruit-growing stand-

point as it is in reality.

One reason why this section has been retarded in the matter of growing fruits is because until recently there has been no spirit of advancement among the settlers here. Being off the main line of either of the transthe main line of either of the trans-continental rallways, few visitors have stopped here in comparison to the vast hordes of eastern immigrants that have filled up the Wenatchee, Yakima, Hood River and other of the famous fruit growing beits of the Pacific Northwest. Conditions, however, are rapidly changing and now there are hundreds of new people residing in hundreds of new people residing this valley who are adding to the stock of knowledge of those already here, the ideas received in other localities. Application of these ideas is having great deal to do in changing the en-tire aspect of the valley.

Few Commercial Orchards at First.

At the present time there are but few commercial orchards in bearing here, but within the next five years hundreds of highly improved fruit ranches will be placed in bearing condition. Even now the rich bottom lands and many of the irrigated hill farms adjacent to these two towns, are dotted with highly cultivated orchards in which the trees are of uniform size and every row lines up with every other one in symmetrical form. In place of run-down and untilled orchards, which were the order of the day five which were the order of the day five years ago, there are now hundreds of acres of fruit trees planted here in which not a sprig of grass of any kind is allowed to grow. Regular sprayings also do much to add to the heauty and producing qualities of the trees. Since Umatilla County has had a fruit inspector, there has been a fruit inspector, there has been a improvement along all lines culture. No attention was paid at first when the inspector alleged that he would confiscate and burn fruits which were infected, but when a num-ber of cases had been thus treated peobegan to take notice, and consefrom the start which now puts fruits from this vicinity along side of that from any other section of the North-west in the markets of New York and Europe. On his return from a through a number of the eastern cities, one of the prominent business men of this city said that people here did not know the real value of their own products, and quoted as an example the sale of Walla Walla Valley apples in the mar-kets of New York City. He said he frequently saw apples from this sec-tion sold three for 25 cents.

"The Big Red Apple, of Course."

When asked recedtly what he conmidered the staple production of this valley, the County Fruit Inspector, C. L. Whitney, of Walla Walla County. PROPOSED \$15,000 HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING TO BE ERECTED AT WOODLAND.



STRUCTURE WILL BE MODERN IN EVERY DETAIL.

WOODLAND, Wash., July 10.—(Special.)—Woodland will spend \$15.000 for a high school building that will be erected here in time for the Fall term. The building will be 86x75 feet, two-story and busement, and will contain eight class rooms, recitation rooms, library, teachers' rooms, principal's office, and large halls. The basement will be full concrete. The heating plant will be of modern construction.

P. Chappelle Brown, of Portland, prepared the plans and specifications and will have supervision of construction, which will begin within 15 days. A feature of the building will be that two of the class rooms running the length of the building can be thrown into one room in connection with the lower hall, by means of drop partitions, thus making a large assembly room.

ways said in the production of fruit the people here would succeed.

A man who believes strongly in science and scientific methods in farming as well as in other lines of business, Mr. Whit-

ney has left no stone unturned which would give to the people of Walla Walla and Umatilla counties every advantage of experiment and knowledge which was possible to impart to them. In this Mr. Whitney has been ably assisted by Howard Evans and S. J. Campbell, Umatilla County's ex-fruit inspector and the present incumbent of the office. Each Spring a general round of every orchard is made several times and if the sprayings have not been properly done, the work is ordered done over again. In

some instances this is repeated as many as four times. as four times.

Another thing which has gained for the fruitgrowers of the Milton-Freewater country, is a better and more thorough system of packing fruits for shipment. Formerly growers were accustomed to put in anything that would sell at all and they were not at all particular as to how the lot was packed. During the past two years, since the establishment and reorganization of the Milton Fruitgrowers' Union, it has been a tule of growers' Union, it has been a rule of the union that none but fruits packed ac-cording to a certain standard be accepted for shipment. In this manner and through the co-operation of the Shields Fruit Company and the Walla Walla Produce Company, together with individual growers and shippers, the standard of products sent from here has been improved at least 200 per cent. In this manner the apples, peaches strawberries, cherries and prunes sent from the Milton depot have

become as popular and well known in out-side markets as fruits from Hood River and Wenatchee. Better Prices Encourage.

increased prices which have been re elved for fruits grown here as a result of the better methods used in the pro-duction and marketing have given added encouragement to grow better varieties and more strictly commercial fruits than has been the case heretofore.

The question of irrigation has never been carefully locked into by residents of this valley until the past two seasons, when the rest read of planty of water

when the real need of plenty of water has been felt. Heretofore there has been no conservation of water for irrigation rposes whatever and in many cases lful waste has been noted. But as more lands have been opened for cultivation and placed in orchards and gardens, a better equalization of the supply has ensued and more care exercised in using water. Consequently many times the number of acres which were originally under irrigation have been placed in a position where sufficient water can be secured to grow any kind or variety of fruit or garden stuff that is to be grown in the Northwest.

Hundreds of acres of what were at one time barren and waste lands without one drop of water, have been reclaimed by digging wells and installing pumping plants. There is probably no country in the West where so much water lies at only a few feet below the surface of the ground as may be found here in the Milion-Freewater country and by digging from 25 to 40 feet, water in limitless quantities may be discovered. Gasoline or motor power is used to pump this on the lands in question, at a very little expense, and many people prefer this system of irrigation to any other. For less than \$500 a well may be dug and the pump and all necessary accessories installed, sufficient to water from 25 to 40 acres. It has been that by thus expending from 250 to 1274. ending from \$20 to \$30 an acre on lands ere, their value has been increased from \$50 to \$200 per acre and in many instances to as high as \$500 an acre. It Is not an infrequent occurrence for growers to take net from their lands from \$200 to \$500 an acre for strawberries, and an equal amount for cherries and peaches while this sum is doubled from apple or-

5000 Bearing Acres.

There are approximately 5000 acres of Milton-Freewater Valley at the Milton-Freewater Valley at the sime and more than treble this acreage planted to young trees. There are estimated 20,000 acres more, however, which are now being used for grains or less productive crops which can readily be productive crops which can readily be productive and made to increage in Greater activity is shown four miles east of Ashland, near the Gillett Lithis Springs, where the Ashland Coal Company has run slopes into two coal by 50 feet bearing orchard and berry lands in the Milton-Freewater Valley at the present time and more than trable this acreage but it is possible to increase this sum many times, and that it will be done within the next five years seems to be the general belief of those who have made this question a study. Increasingly better market facilities are

also adding to the rerown of this valley from a fruitgrower's standpoint. The advent of the Walla Walla Yalley Traction Company's line from here to Walla Walla connecting with the Northern Pathe trains at that point, has given much advantage from a shipper's standpoint and this is telling in the general activity of the fruit market here.

Although there is now less than 19 per cent of the population in this valley which it is conservatively estimated might be one of the best authorities on horticulture this country knows, said, "the
big red apple of course," Mr. Whitney
came to this valley many years ago
and although he is now living to see
his predictions come true, he has al-

# OREGON COAL GOOD

Three Localities Mine Enough Fuel for Their Own Consumption.

DEPOSITS

Report of U. S. Geological Survey Concerning Ledges Is Issued. Medford, Ashland and Heppner Contribute Mineral.

Coal deposits in Oregon are discussed in a recent report of the United States Geological Survey, issued by the Department of the Interior. Deposits of coal are found in the vicinity of Medford and Ashland, in the southern part of the state, and near Hennar, in Eastern Oregon. and near Heppner, in Eastern Oregon There is more or less mining activity in all three localities and enough cosl is being produced to meet the demand for

J. S. Diller conducted the investigation the department in the Rogue River Valley and reported finding numerous de posits of coal in that valley between the Cascade Range and the Klamath or Siskiyou Mountains. The principal deposits in that section of the state are located near Medford and Ashland.

The coal six miles east of Medford lies along the foot of the steeper slope, which along the foot of the steeper slope, which rises from the edge of the valley, 600 feet above the town, to the bold front of the Cascades. Some years ago the Southern Pacific Company prospected a coal bed at this point, and the size of the dump indicates that the trial drift must have been about 100 feet in length. Since then a number of other coal beds a short distance farther up the same bill. a short distance farther up the same hill-side have been discovered and opened up by slopes, tunnels and drifts aggregating nearly 900 feet in length. Considerable coal has been hauled to Medford and sold at \$8 a ton.

Supply Local Demand.

The principal bed prospected is about 12 feet thick, and the striking feature at the entrance of the gentle slope is the large number of clay and sand partings with very little coal between them. As the slope is descended along the bed there appears a decided in crease in the quantity and improvement in the quality of the coul toward the northeast. The ledges of black, lustrous coal, generally not over six to eight inches thick, when mined swell to more than a foot and furnish the source of supply for the local demand. This mine was purchased recently by the Southern Pacific Company, which has developed the openings to northeast along the dip of the coal bed for more than 1000 feet. The prediction that the coal would be found of better quality and in larger quantity has been confirmed. The mine is now producing coal and supplies the local market. The development of this mine has greatly stimulated prospecting in other parts of the field.

It is not to be expected, says the report, that the coal beds extend to a very great distance beneath the Cascade Range before being disturbed by the rising lavas of the range, but it may well be believed that they con-tinue far enough to give a consider-able body of coal of various grades

pany has run slopes into two coal beds, the upper 12 feet and the lower 5½ feet thick, separated by 50 feet of slippery shale and shaly sandstone. The coal beds are made up of good coal locally six inches thick and separated by coaly shale. The coal breaks out by coaly shale. The coal breaks ou in blocks and contains a considerable percentage of sulphur. The disturbing features of this prospect are irregular masses of old lavas, which appear no only in all the entries, but at various levels on the surface and in bluffs nearby along the creek. Where the coal is in contact with the lava the latter appears to be the older. The abundance and irregularity of these lava masses render the extent of the coal beds a matter of doubt.

Willow Creek Supply Big.

According to W. C. Mendenhall, of the geological survey, who conducted the explorations in Morrow County, the

principal coal deposits of Eastern Oregon, so far as known, are on Willow Creek, about 22 miles from Heppner. The coal was discovered several years ago by Willard Herron and \$82,000 is reported to have been expended in the exploitation and development of this operty, which is owned jointly by D. Herron, C. A. Redfield and George

The owners of the prospects repor that selected samples of the coal have yielded from 51 to 71 per cent of fixed carbon by analysis; that the average moisture is about 8 per cent and that samples yielding as low as 5 per cent of ash have been analyzed. It is stated that a fair sample across the face of one of the drifts has yielded about 26 per cent of commercial coal, and that in other places the coal forms from 12 to 40 per cent of the total thickness of the bed.

or the bed.

It is evident, continues the report of Mr. Mendenhall, that the coals thus far revealed by developments are not adapted for ordinary commercial use because of their very high percentage of ash, due to the intimate interming-ling of coal and bone. It is possible, however, that as they occur in a region remote from other sources of hydrocarbon fuels they may prove to be suit able for use in producer-gas engines when this means of developing power

SUPPOSEDLY WORTHLESS FOR-ESTS PROVE VALUABLE.

Samples of Wood Sent to Lebanon Paper Mills Show Black Pine Surpasses Other Woods.

BEND, Or., July 11 .- (Special.) - Discov ery has been made that the wood of the black pine of Central Oregon can be manufactured into a paper pulp of an exceedingly fine and valuable grade. J. N. Hunter and J. E. Sawhill, of Bend, recently sent specimens of the wood to the Lebanon Pulp Mills, and as a result of experiments tried there it is reported that the quality of pulp produced from the black pine surpasses in whiteness, ease of manufacture and probable con mercial value for paper-making purpos any wood hitherto handled in the state The results of the discovery of market able value in timber hitherto considered almost worthless will be of vast importance to the entire Central Oregon coun try, and particularly to that portion drained by the Deschutes, where the stand

is remarkably prolific.

In the past the paper mills have secured their pulp from the white pine, balm and cottonwood. The end of the available supply within the state from these sources is a matter of a compara-tively few years. But before the existing supply is exhausted, if the claims made for the black pine pulp are solidly based, the eyes and capital of the papermakers will undoubtedly turn to the enormous forests of this newly available wood to be found in the central portions

of the state. It is estimated that in the country tributary to Bend alone, there are a million or more acres of this "blackjack," averaging all the way from 2000 to 10,000 feet to the acre, this, of course, taking no consideration of the enormous attand of yellow pine. Should the manufacture of black pine rule become a results, and of black pine pulp become a reality—and as the Deschutes offers unlimited water-power, this need only depend upon the realization of the present rathroad hopesmany millions of dollars will be ex-changed for lands up to now looked upon as next to worthless.

The black pine is a dark-barked pine growing thickly in the semi-desert lands too dry for the yellow pine, and, in some instances, is mixed in with the latter. It is far smaller than its yellow brother, a tree 12 or 14 inches in diameter being ex-ceptionally large for the species, and the average of a fairly good stand ranging about nine inches. On account of its small size it is not logged, and is usually regarded by the homesteader as a nuisance to be cleared from his fields like sagebrush, and finds its nearest approach to practical use as fence railings.

#### NEW YACOLT WATER PLANT

Reservoir Just Completed and Gravity System to Be Built.

YACOLT, Wash., July 11 .- (Special.) -A 60,000-gallon new reservoir, at a height of 150 feet above the town, has just been completed at Yacolt by the Yacolt Waterworks Company. New four-inch water mains have been laid this Summer along several blocks, and the work of laying new mains is not completed. When the improvements are all made the company

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fown, and everybody can get all the water he wants. The company is also in a position to connect with the fire hy-lrants, as soon as the hydrants are in. he Town Council has decided to put in fire-hydrant system.

a fire-hydrant system.

The new reservoir is located on a large tract of land on a rise of ground, a 13-inch cut having been made in the side of the hill so as to reach a solid foundation. The reservoir is built on solid concrete piers. It is covered and screened so as to keep the water free from all possible contamination.

ontamination. The company has at present a pumping station, and the water furnished the citizens of Yacolt is pumped from deep wells. But the company has bought the falls on Big Tree Creek, three miles east of the town, and expects before long to harness the falls, run a pipe line into Yacolt and thus establish a gravity system. The waterworks system in Yacolt was put in three years ago. B. F. Anderson is the manager and superintendent.

A new bank will soon be opened in Yacolt by some Eastern men. The lots on which the new bank building will stand have been bought and construction work on the new block started. A new meat market building has just been completed and an ice plant is to be constalled. pleted, and an ice plant is to be erected in the rear of the building. The new, com-modious hospital, which contains it rooms for patients, is finished, and as soon as it is furnished will be formally opened.

HEPPNER YIELD MAY EXCEED THAT OF LAST YEAR.

Grain Is Now in Condition to Withstand Hot Winds Without Damages.

HEPPNER, Or., July 11.—(Special.)— The rains of the past week and the con-The rains of the past week and the continued cool weather has had a wholesome effect upon the grain fields of Morrow County. The rains which fell during the fore part of the week came in time to furnish a stimulus to the filling grain, and the cool days following have tided the grain through so that it will take several days of hot winds to have any telling effect.

The crops on the Heppner Flat coun-

The crops on the Heppner Flat coun try and further south, near Hardman, will be much better than first expected, and it is now thought by all who are in position to know that a great deal more wheat will be warehoused in Heppner this year than last, or even the year prior to that

However, the crops in the northern part of the county will hardly pay for their cutting, and in many instances the farmers will simply pasture the fields. Farm ers are now claiming that Morrow Coun y will produce more No. 1 wheat this year than last, and in most every case the Spring grain is far ahead of anything

#### DITCH SUPPLYING WATER

Grants Pass Berry-Growers Make Use of Irrigation Canals.

GRANTS PASS, Or., July 11.-(Special.) GRANTS PASS, Or., July II. Special.

The irrigation ditch on the north side of the river has been completed as far west as the city limits, and the big pumps are sending daily thousands of gallons through the ditch to the farmers and burry-raisers east of the city and up the valley.

This week water was let into the city

and its suburbs, and many people who live east of Sixth street are taking ad-vantage of the situation and using the irrigation company's water instead of the local company. One garderner who here-tofore has been paying for water at the rate of \$6 to \$19 a month during the irrigating season, secured water yesterday for his acre lot for the rest of the year for \$5, this being the amount fixed for ers and fruitraisers to pay, and gardeners in the suburbs.

By next season the entire town will be

supplied with water at this cheap rate irrigating purposes, which means a fold increase in table products and marketable produce, notwithstanding the amount of forage that will be raised in the territory of the ditches. The ditch on the south side has circled Fruitdale Valley and is now built a distance of 12 miles, all of which is open and ready for the delivery of water as the farmers may desire it

#### VALE RAISES SEED ALFALFA

Farmers Make \$50 to \$150 an Acre Exclusive First Hay Crop.

VALE, Or., July 11 .- (Special.) -- Owing VALE, Or., July II.—(Special.)—Owing to the backwardness of the Spring, the alfalfa crop will be comparatively light this year in Malheur County. However, the seed crop bids fair to be exceedingly good. This is a new feature that has been introduced into farming within the last two years, and one that is gaining ground every year. Heretofore the alfalfa hay crop has been the major crop in this part of Oregon, but it has been found that the soil is better adapted to the raising of the seed, and that it is more profing of the seed, and that it is more prof-itable to cut only one early crop and then to allow the alfalfa to seed. The farmers in this section realize from \$50 to \$100 an acre from the seed, and it is not uncommon for the yield to bring \$120 an acre. This is exclusive of the first hay crop.

### TOWN WILL BUILD WHARF

White Salmon to Have Best Boat-\*Landing on Columbia.

WHITE SALMON, Wash, July 11.— The White Salmon Wharf Company was will have spent \$3000.

Organized here yesterday, with a capital Pipes are now laid in all parts of the of \$2500. Incorporation papers have been

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For a number of years the people of White Salmon and the boat companies, have been rebuilding and repairing the old dock. This has been very expensive and unsatisfactory, both to the people of White Salmon and the boat companies. Under the present plan the White Salmon Wharf Company will build and maintain a first-class dock and charge a reason. a first-class dock and charge a reason maintaining of a good, substantial wharf here is of great importance to the people of the entire valley, since it is the only place adjacent to the valley where the boats can land during high water. Plans for the new wharf are being drawn up and the work of construction will be-

Rain Helps Stevens County. COLVILLE, Wash., July 11.—(Spe

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drawn up and sent to the Secretary of State. The corporation will build and maintain a first-class wharf where the old dock now stands. abundant in Stevens County this year.

Ferry License Is Renewed.

GOLDENDALE, Wash., July 11.-(Special.)—At the meeting of the Couny Commissioners this week a license to operate a ferry on the Columbia between White Salmon and Hood River. The competition for this license was keen, but as the service in the past has been satisfactory and considering the fact that Mr. Dean had already se-cured the license on the Oregon side the Commissioners renewed the privilege for five years.

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