MALHEUR, COUNTY

OF VAST RESOURCE

Wealth for Farmers in

Southeastern Oregon.

Industries Make

## Phases of Industrial Growth in Northwest

# SEEN FROM AUTOS!!

Oregon Electric Plans Excursions to Marion County Fruit Districts.

PRUNES YIELD BIG PROFIT

Crop This Year Estimated at 40, 000,000 Pounds-Market Problem Is Solved by Organization of Growers' Union.

SALEM Or., July 18 - (Special) -After a trip through the splendid fruit belt to the south of Salem, General Manager Guy V. Talbot, of the Oregon Electric, and other officials of the road, have enthusiastically undertaken the task of arranging regular excur-sions from Portland direct to the heart of one of the richest fruit sections in

This will be done by having automo-biles meet certain Oregon electric cars upon their arrival here, when the pasupon their arrival here, when the pas-sengers will be whirled away for a trip of an hour or two through the country, returning in time to allow the excur-sionists an opportunity to look over the city before returning to Portland. It is proposed to designate two or three trains weekly as excursion trains, and all who desire may buy tickets to in-clude the auto trip at this end of the

line.

The foundation of the prine business in the Willamette Valley was laid 20 years ago by the Oregon Land Company, composed of Dr. H. J. Minthorn, pany, composed of Dr. H. S. Cook, in pany, composed of Dr. H. J. Minimon, now located at Newport; B. S. Cook, in the real estate business at Portland, and C. B. Moores, now a resident of These far-sighted pioneers Portland. These far-sighted pioneers in the work of subdivision saw that the future of the country depended on the cultivation of fruit and the increasing of population by the cutting up of some of the larger farms that had been devoted to the growing of wheat, and in many cases had been in the hands of original owners since the days of donation land claims.

#### Growers Learn by Experience.

The company turned its attention to the fertile hills south of Salem, buying a farm wherever the chance presented a farm wherever the chance presented itself, subdividing it and planting it in most cases to prunes and disposing of it on easy terms within the reach of the small farmer. Business went along swimmingly for some time. Buyers were not wanting and the company was making money. But soon the prune trees began to bear and the troubles of the company and the men who had bought the farms began to multiply. bought the farms began to multiply. There was no satisfactory market, and had there been a market the inexperienced prunegrowers would not have known how to take full advantage of it. They packed their fruit in sacks, and when a buyer was found the fruit was graded as second-class. Pests came and, in the absence of specific information on how to fight them, they

d great damage. But finally the business began to assume a more promising aspect. Ex-perience and study brought knowledge, and with knowledge came better cul-tivation, better packing, better mar-keting and more profits. Land began tivation, better packing, better marketing and more profits. Land began to increase in value and new people began to seek out the red hills to the south where men were making money in the prune business. As the ground flow company's veneer plant, have rein the prune business. As the growers became more prosperous and their loads of fruit became heavier and more dif-ficult to handle, the more apparent be-came the need of better roads. The agitation for improvements commenced and was kept up for years, finally and gradually resulting in the building of the Liberty-Rosedale rock road, which is today the equal of any piece of country road in the West.

#### Profitable Valley Crop.

The prune crop today is one of the most profitable and dependable in this part of the Valley. In only one year, 1902, has there been any over produc-tion. While the annual output has been increasing rapidly the demand has more than kept pace with the output. The annual production from the present acreage is now about 40,000,000 pounds. While the crop of 1908 was only about half that amount, dealers and leading growers are of the opinion that this year's output will reach the

full average. Salem is the most important center salem is the most important center in the state for the growing and marketing of the Oregon prune. Orchards cover many of the higher spots surrounding the city, while the red hills of the Liberty-Rosedale district south of the city is given over almost entirely to the cultivation of the prune. Excellent land in this neighborhood, spien-didly adapted to this branch of horti-culture, can still be had at from \$60 to sino per acre, bearing orchards \$100 to \$100 per acre, bearing orchards \$100 to \$300 per acre, while in the famous Santa Chara Valley of California, where the Rallan or Oregon prune can-not be produced, and where the yield per acre of inferior prunes is not as large as that of the Italian in Oregon, the prices demanded and paid for prune land ranges from \$500 to \$1000 per acre. The ordinary orchard in this vicinity contains from 25 to 40 acres, although there are a few tracts in the valley much larger.

H. S. Gile, of the Willamette Prune

Association, discussing the marketing phase of the industry, said:

### Prune of High Food Merit.

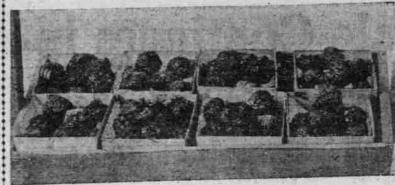
Prune of High Food Merit.

"Many time more prunes would be sold to the best class of trade if their attention was drawn to the real merits of Oregon prunes as a food, and to the perfectly clean character of the fruir as it reaches them in the tenpound package, coming directly from the sterilizing plant to the consumer, as it should. When the dust and dirt of the retail grocery store and the open box, bin or bag of primes can be replaced by packages or by a container of some sort which will reach the consumer as originally packed—similar to sumer as originally packed similar to seeled raisins, then there will come the

selled raisins, then there will come the day of the prune, for no cured fruit his greater merit.

While the big orchards south of the city are being subdivided, making room for intensive farming and better farmers, increasing the population, building new farm buildings and fences, schoolhouses and courches and good roads, the City of Faiem is not dependent on any one variety of fruit culture for its maintenance nor on any one section of farming country. On all four sides of the city, for miles and miles in every direction, there is to be found land unexcelled for the cultiva-

ONE HUNDRED STRAWBERRIES FILL EIGHT QUART BOXES



FRUIT GROWN ON J. C. TAYLOR'S FARM NEAR ELMA. FRUIT GROWN ON J. C. TAYLOR'S FARM NEAR ELMA.

ELMA, Wash., July 18.—(Special.)—J. C. Taylor, a fruitgrower near

Elma, has had a picture taken of eight boxes of strawberries grown

by him this season, which contained just an even hundred berries. The

boxes were all filled and were the ordinary kind sold in the mar
kets. Mr. Taylor has in all ten acres in berries, mostly strawberries,

and has been very successful.

His land is on the hill and is a clay loam. A few years ago such

land could be bought for a few dollars an acre, but since clearings

have been made and results in the way of big profits from fruit rais
ing shown, it has advanced considerably.

tion of cherries, apples, peaches, pears, plums, hops, walnuts, grains and vege-

Market Problem Solved. Market Problem Solved.

The problem of a market, which has been up for consideration for years, it is believed, has been solved by the organization of the Salem Fruit Union, which has kept a large force of workers busy all through the present fruit season preparing and shipping the highst grades of fruit, not only to Coast cities but as far east as Chicago. The lower grades are sold to the canneries. The organization has demonstrated its usefulness, and next year its plant will be enlarged by the erection of a cooling station so that fruit tion of a cooling station so that fruit may be kept in the best of condition while being prepared for shipment. It is estimated that fully 1000 acres of prune land has changed hands in the past six months. Prices are stead-ily increasing, as growers begin to appreciate the profits of the business and the future of the industry.

### RAYMOND PEOPLE BUSY

IMPROVEMENTS AND NEW FAC-TORIES ARE UNDER WAY.

Business Activity, It Is Believed, Will Reach Record Established for Town in 1907.

RAYMOND, Wash., July 18 .- (Special.)-Local men predict that the present business activity will equal the record of 1907. During the next few months over \$70,000 will be expended in Raymond on new streets and bridges. Two large draw bridges of 125-foot clear openings will span the Willapa and South Fork of the Willaps, replacing the ferries heretofore

Of the sum necessary for this work, the Board of County Commissioners, in session last week, appropriated \$25,000, while the city has just voted a bond issue to cover the basance. The assurance of the bridges has precipitated a building boom, and a number of new dwellings and two large business blocks, one of cement, are under way. Real estate is again active and sales are being made daily.

The big veneer plant of the Pacific Fruit Package Company is nearing com-pletion and will be in operation within a few weeks. This, with the new plant of 'the Clerin-Hamilton Lumber Comor the Certainman pany, which is now completed and ready for operation, will make a substantial addition to the city's payroll. Work will also start soon on the Pacific & Eastern also start soon on the Pacific & Bastern Railroad, which will be extended into a heavy body of timber on Mili Creek, where large logging camps will be opened. Several miles of track was laid by the Pacific & Bastern during the Summer of 1907, but the panic resulted in work be-ing suspended. Large crews of men will be started to work on the road with a view of reaching well into the timber belt before the wet weather sets in. before the wet weather sets in.

#### HONEY READY TO GATHER

Three Carloads Were Harvested at Ontario Last Year.

ONTARIO, Or., July 18.—(Special.)—W. H. Pennington, the honey-grower of On-ario, has commenced extracting this week ey stored in his 200 beenives. Pennington's honey is famed all over the Northwest, as he ships extensively of that commodity, and it is made of the finest alfalfa syrup, gathered in the immense fields surrounding Ontario. Last year Mr. Pennington shipped more than three car-loads from this place to Portland, Kansas

MUCH CONSTRUCTION GOES ON

Steam, Electric and Gasoline Lines Under Way and Still More Are Projected.

MARSHFIELD, Or., July 18 .- (Special.) -Railroad talk, survey work, and railway prospects in Coos County are numerous at this time and the people are hopeful that some of it, at least, will

of way on a portion of the county roads and in several cities and report their work is progressing. Work of making a preliminary survey, which was started by the Coos Bay, Oregon & Idaho Railroad Company, is still in progress. Chief Bagineer Haines has his force of surveyors in the field and will continue the work through the Summer. The expense is defracted with morey subscribed for stock frayed with money subscribed for stock by local people. The purpose is to find, if possible, a 1 per cent grade between Coos Bay and Roseburg. If this is done, Pastern Railroad men have promised to investigate. If for any reason they fall to take up the proposition, the idea of the promoters is to build a state-aided

#### WINLOCK COWS PAY WELL

More Than Doubled in Value.

Harris Trunk Co. for suftcases and

IN COOS BAY COUNTRY.

J. M. Blake is applying for franchises

into the interior as necessity demands.

WINLOCK, Wash. July IS.—(Special.)—
Two years ago the farmers in this vicinity purchased of private individuals the Winlock Creamery. The company was organized on the co-operative plan, and shares placed at E par, each stockholder being allowed to purchase one share for each cow he owned. The creamery at that time was making 600 or 700 pounds of butter a week. The company recently raised time was making so or two pounds of out-ter a week. The company recently raised the price of shares to \$5, is entirely out of debt, owns a fine creamery building and a valuable block of land in the cen-tral portion of the city.

The creamery turns out about 1900 pounds

of butter a day, shipping the principal portion of it to Scattle.

gonian, will be sure to buy one.

amount of business.

The Smith-Powers Logging Company has completed a logging railroad into a big timber country at the head of Isthmus lniet, which has never before been reached, and this road will be extended

Shares in Co-operative Creamery

in Marshfield and North Bend for an electric streetcar line. Summers & Haas, who are interested with the Coquille Mill & Mercantile Company in building an elec-tric line to Roseburg, have secured rights

WINLOCK, Wash., July 18 .- (Special.)

The head of every family having no plane, who sees one of the planes ad-vertised on the fifth page, of today's Ore-

## WATER PROJECTS NAMED

Government Irrigation Scheme Will Reclaim Large Areas Now Used Only as Grazing Lands-Climate of Region Is Mild.

VALE. Or., July 18 .- (Special.)-VALE. Or. July 18.—(Special.)—
Following the lines of travel from the
East. people are whitrled through this
section over the Oregon Short Line
Raliroad at the rate of 40 miles an
hour. Their tickets read through to
Western Oregon, and thus in the minds
of most Eastern people the old idea
still exists that this country is a land
of sagebrush and jack rabbits. This
notion is correct as far as it goes, but
it is only a part of the truth. Probably no other section in the United
States of the same area turns off more
horses, cattle and sheep than Eastern horses, cattle and sheep than Eastern

Oregon.

In this section is found Malheur County. It is situated in the very southeastern corner of the state, and is 180 miles long aud, on the average, 50 miles wide, commaining 9784 square miles. In other words, it is about onemiles. In other words, it is about one-sixth as large as the State of Kansas. Heretofore the country has been wa-tered by the Malheur and Owyhee rivers and their tributaries, which flow in a northeasterly direction until they

in a northeasterly direction until they unite their waters with those of the Snake River, on its eastern border.

But at present the Government is looking over the situation with the view of constructing a large storage reservoir at the headwaters of the Maiheur River. This enterprise will involve the expenditure of something over \$2.800.000, and will furnish abundant water for the valleys, as well as for the bench land which heretofore has never been watered, owing to the has never been watered, owing to the scarcity of water. The surveys for this irrigation project will soon be completed, and when the project is finished, approximately 175,000 acres of arid land will be irrigated.

#### Malheur Soil Very Rich.

The soil in the Malheur Valley is of a virgin character, for the most part being composed of disintegrated rock, decomposed lava mixed with alluvial matter, and other elements at first hand

to take up the proposition, the idea of the promoters is to build a state-aided railroad in conjunction with other counties of the state between the Coast and Boise, Idaho.

F. W. Stevens, an engineer of Marshfield, is working on a survey from this city to the Umpqua River for a proposed electric line, the details of which have not yet been given out.

The fact that the Southern Pacific is paying for right of way secured three years ago for a coast line surveyed as a continuation of the Drain branch, has given encouragement locally and has revived hope that the Harriman interests may take definite action soon.

Another railroad project was recently launched by Bandon men. They have incorporated for the purpose of building a steam, electric or gasoline road from Bandon to Port Orford, in Curry County, and announce that is miles of the road, from Bandon to Langiols, will be built at once. This road will tap a rich timber country and will also put Bandon in closer touch with Curry County, a district from which the town receives a large amount of business.

The Smith-Powers Logging Company has completed a logging railroad into a bir timber country at the head of Isthmus

rom 60 to 90. Fruits of all kinds grow to advan-

Fruits of all kinds grow to advan-tage. Apples, peaches, apricots, pears, prunes, plums, nectarines, grapes and all small fruits. Perfect apples are grown here. At a recent meeting of the Irrigation Congress, held in Sacra-mento. Cal. Malheur County captured the \$500 Governor Pardee prize for the best collection of fruits grown by irri-ection. Apples grow to be 15 inches

hest collection of fruits grown by irrigation. Apples grow to be 15 inches in circumference, peaches 12 inches, and Bartlett pears to weigh 29 ounce. The principal calling, aside from farming and fruitraising, is stockraising. The extensive expanse of foothill country, covered with nutritious grasses, adapt the country to this sort of business. Horses and cattle graze on this grass from the month of March to the month of December, and not infrequently all Winter. However, it has been found more profitable to feed during the coldest weather. This is especially the case with sheep.

#### cially the case with sheep. 1500 Cars of Stock Yearly.

The methods of stock Yearly.

The methods of stockraising are simple. The farmer brands his young stock in the Spring, turns them out on the range, and "rounds them up" in the Fail for Winter feeding. Some idea can be formed of the extensive stockraising in this county when it is realized that from one point over 1500 cars of livestock are shipped annually. Bee culture is also one of the thriving industries of this section. Malheur County honey has secured several prizes at the different state fairs. The honey is characterized by its pure

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The mild climate and the excellence of the alfalfa makes it an ideal country for the apiculturist. Practically every farmer has his bee colonies, and each colony will average from 50 to 120 pounds of honey annually.

A number of exhaustive experiments have been made which fully demonstrate the country's fitness for sugarbeet culture. The chemical tests of beets grown in Malheur County soil show that they contain all the elements, saccharine and otherwise, required Malheur now has the distinction of being the greatest producer of the sugar beet of any county in Oregon or Idaho.

Indications of oil and natural gas in large quantities in and about Vale, when the proper depth has been reached, are now very good. Many drills are at work in the fields, and it is thought that the known oil belt has been correctly determined. There is now a small flow of oil at two of the wells, but they have not yet gone deep enough to get it in commercial quantienough to said by experts that this re-gion has been the bed of a large lake, and this is verified by the fact that petrified fish bones of all sorts may be scooped up by the handful in the can-

The northwestern portion of the county is richly mineralized. The placer mines at Malheur City, Amelia and Mormon Basin are among the foremost in the state. These, however, are giving way to the quartz lodes, with which the section in question is seamed. The vegetation of the country constats in sagebrush (Arthemeson). This is a desert shrub of no mean value. A peculiar thing about it is, it will die if watered. It furnishes the new settler with stovewood, and the traveler with fuel for his campfire. Farther back in what is known as the foothill country, juniper and mountain mahogany appear. The former makes good fence posts, the latter a very valuable fuel supply. In the western portion of the county are dense forests of pine, fit, tamarack and other woods which furnish good building material.

Climate Is Mild. northwestern portion of the The

#### Climate Is Mild.

Climate Is Mild.

The climate of this section is a seeming contradiction of the prevailing notion of the climatic conditions in the lature. But when it is unverstood that this country is under the influence of the Pacific Ocean to a great extent, which tempers this interior mountain climate to a marked degree, making the Summers cooler and the Winters warmer, it will be clearly understood. In hrief, the Summers are long and dry, yet the heat is not oppressive. The rainfail will probably not exceed teninches annually. This falls mostly between the months of December and May. The rainfail is not sufficient to raise crops without the aid of irrigation. Crops of cereals are sometimes raised on unirrigated lands, but the successful farmer depends on irrigation.

successful farmer depends on irrigation.

The principal towns of the county are Ontario, Nyssa, Acadia, Jordan Valley, Westfall, Malbeur City and Valley, Tour of these towns are on the railroad. The first three named are on the main line of the Oregon Short Line, and Valle is situated on a branch 16 miles from the main line. Vale is the county seat.

The population of this county is strictly American, only about 1 per cent of which is foreign.

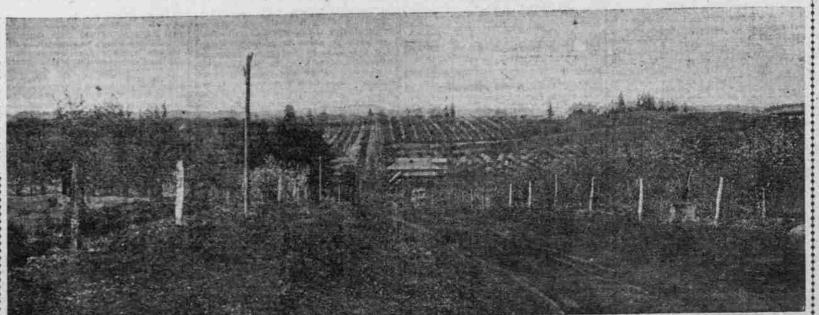
GRESHAM, Or., July 18.—(Special.)—Considerable new and important county road work is now going on in the several road districts of pastern Multnomah. The new rotary rockcrusher at the 11-mile post on the Base Line road is running at full capacity every day, turning out about 100 tons of crushed rock daily. A string of teams is kept busy hauling the output into Gresham where the principal streets are receiving an improve-

### FINE WHEAT ON DRY LANDS

Ontario Farmers Get Excellent Results From Experiments.

ONTARIO, Or., July 18.-(Special.)-Wheat on the dry farms near Ontario is in excellent condition this year and is expected to make a record crop. While Matheur County farmers do not give much attention to wheatgrowing as a gen-

### VIEW IN PRUNE DISTRICT IN MARION COUNTY.



VALLEY FARMERS FIND DEMAND FOR OREGON PRUNES INCREASING YEARLY.

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### 317 BECK BUILDING, PORTLAND, OR.

EXTENSIVE WORK BEING DONE

County Will Expend \$100,000 in Improving Highways Leading East From Portland.

IN EASTERN MULTNOMAH.

eral road districts of Eastern Multnomah. The new rotary rockerusher at the II-mile post on the Base Line road is running at full capacity every day, turning out about 100 tons of crushed rock daily. A string of teams is kept busy hauling the output into Gresham where the principal streets are receiving an improvement that will be permanent.

The streets of the city to be improved are all county roads and are under the care of Supervisor George W. Kenney, who is directing the new improvements.

care of Supervisor George W. Kenney, who is directing the new improvements. As fast as the crushed rock is laid it is firmly rolled with a new steam roller recently purchased by the county, after which a top dressing of sand is put on and rolled again.

In Supervisor Hillyard's district, east of Gresham, about two miles of old plank roadway is being given a gravel surface, the plank being used to repair other sections which cannot be graveled this year.

Malheur County farmers do not give much attention to wheatgrowing as a general crop, nearly every farmer has a small field, and the past few years dryfarming has come more and more into favor on the benches, where wheat is one of the good crops.

This year the wheat is full, healthy and clean. Most of it will average, it is estimated, from \$\mathbb{Z}\$ to 6 bushels to the acre, and the grain stands four to five feet high. On fields which have been cultivated for the first time this year it is not quite so thick as on older fields, but the entire average is very good. There will be more wheat harvested near Ontario this year than ever before.

Brick Block for Ontario.

ONTARIO, Or., July 18 -- (Special.) -- Con

Bonds

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PORTLAND, OREGON.

struction work has begun on one of the big brick business houses promised for Ontario within the gext three months. This is the block to be erected by the Boyer Bros.' Mercantile Company, and Boyer Bros. Mercantile Company, and will occupy five lots just opposite their present location, on one of the principal business corners of the town. It will also face the new hotel to be crected soon by David Wilson, owner of the Ontario town-

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