

ADVANTAGES AND RESOURCES OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON

Mankind has ever sought a land where his material wants and necessities might be most easily obtained. Diversified tastes and inclinations have led him on to the furthestmost parts of the globe in quest of this ideal.

hope and many other things. The prices of all these products vary. Five million pounds of evaporated prunes is an aggregate amount of this luscious fruit, the magnitude of which is fully comprehended by but few persons.

Roseburg the Queen City of the Great Umpqua Valley and Southern Oregon.

Great Inducements and Opportunities Open to the Investor and Home Seeker in This Favored Portion of Oregon.

tributaries, Starveout, Hoggam, Tennessee, Whitehorse, Westfork, Union Creek, Ash Creek and many others; Coffee Creek and Myrtle Creek with their tributaries, the Umpqua from the mouth of Myrtle Creek to its source, and the Olalla and its tributaries. Coarse gold is found, nuggets worth over \$200 have been picked up off the bedrock.

The quartz mines are also numerous, an of too much importance to here attempt an exhaustive writup. The yield from gold, silver and copper quartz mines is yearly increasing. The reader is referred to the map herein for the location of the mines throughout the county.

Roseburg fully verifies this statement, showing the remarkable increase of 50 per cent in five years. No other Oregon town can show an equal or better record. One of the latest and best evidences of Roseburg's right to the distinction of being the leading city of Southern Oregon is the official report of postal receipts for the past year.

board of fire delegates chosen from the several companies.

Schools and Churches The public schools of Douglas county compare very favorably with those elsewhere. There are 130 school districts in the county, containing 5820 pupils, between the ages of 4 and 20. About 175 teachers are employed; there being twelve districts employing from two to twelve teachers each.

the mail route from Gardiner via Scottsburg and Elkton.

Dillard is situated on the S. P. R. R., on the banks of the South Umpqua river, 11 miles south of Roseburg; population about 100; one general merchandise store and postoffice, one church building and good school. It is an important shipping point for peaches, pears, apples, melons and strawberries; many car loads are shipped annually; has three large fruit evaporators.

Myrtle Creek is situated on the S. P. R. R., 23 miles south of Roseburg, on the banks of the South Umpqua river; population 300 or 450. It is not lacking in schools and churches. Diversified industries are carried on including lumbering, fruit growing, stockraising and mining. It has a bright future. The Umpqua Valley Oil Company has a first class oil drilling plant located at this place with good prospects for oil. Quartz mines are being developed rapidly with flattering prospects for rich producers.

Riddle, located on the line of the S. P. R. R. in Cow Creek valley, population about 350, has a first class hotel, three stores, good graded schools and churches. It is a shipping point of much importance; farming, stockraising, fruit growing and mining being the principal industries. Placer mining has been carried on here for fifty years, yielding large returns annually. Quartz mines are also being extensively developed. The largest deposit of nickel ore known is found near this place.

is supported by various important industries, such as lumbering, dairying, fishing, tanning and shipbuilding; population about 600; schools, and churches. The United States Light House and Life Saving Station are located a few miles below at the mouth of the river.

Scottsburg, the first town founded in Southern Oregon and former metropolis of this whole region, is situated on the north bank of the Umpqua river, some thirty miles above its mouth at the head of tide water. Was founded in 1850 by Captain Levi Scott. For years prior to the building of the O. & C. R. R. it was the supply point of all Southern Oregon. All the trade of Southern Oregon and a part of Northern California for years passed through this place, enroute to and from San Francisco by water. Railroad transportation has now practically done away with its former importance as a shipping point to the interior; population 100; one store,

and chickens, \$50,000 worth of salmon, \$1,000,000 worth of lumber, \$50,000 worth of butter and cheese, making a total of \$1,520,000, which we consider a good showing when compared with our entire population which is about 15,000 or \$101.00 for each man, woman and child, or about \$505.00 per family, exported each year. This amount would be largely increased by the addition of our yearly mineral wealth which amounts approximately to \$100,000.

County Industrial Notes

Rev. Geo. C. Richey, of this city, reports picking green peas from his garden on May 5th.

The first box of cherries for the season, were delivered in Roseburg Friday, May 12, by Mr. H. E. Huntington, of Edebowner. The fruit is luscious.

Douglas county's strawberry crop is abundant and of fine quality this season. While the market is well supplied the price remains high 20 cents per quart 7 box.

Len Braden, the Myrtle Point liveryman, came out from Coos county Thursday and is spending a few days in Roseburg and vicinity buying horses with which to increase his livery stock. He reports it "dry" over in Coos county, where local option is vigorously enforced.

Many fine salmon catches are still being reported in the North Umpqua river over at Winchester. Capt. Chase Bruce still holds the championship catch for the season, he having recently landed a 55 pound salmon over with a hook and line, the big fish being 4 feet and 1 inch in length.

Mrs. Walter Gray, supplied the beautiful cut roses for the graduating exercises at Cottage Grove last Friday evening. No where in the great state of Oregon does the rose grow to such a degree of perfection as in Roseburg, hence this city is well termed "The City of Roses." Here this beautiful flower grows in the open air and blossoms every month in the year.

W. G. Hughes, of Mt. Aliso ranch, made the Plaindealer a pleasant business call Friday. He had just returned from a business trip to Portland and reported the metropolis taking on a decidedly lively air incident to the opening of the Lewis and Clark Exposition June 1st. Mr. Hughes says this ideal spring weather makes assured abundant harvests of hay and grain crops.

Mrs. Miller of Hayhurst valley has 225 young turkeys at present, but does not expect to out-do last year's success in raising turkeys, as she raised 300 last year and sold six hundred and seventeen (\$617.00) worth. This spring is not nearly so favorable to turkey raising as the two years past. Oakland, the great poultry center of Douglas county, or Oregon, so far as that is concerned, may yet have a rival in Hayhurst.

Gill Meadows, who has spent several weeks prospecting on Upper Cow Creek returned to Roseburg late last week and states that there is certainly a fine gold mining district in South Douglas and that besides the many paying properties now being worked, many more will be discovered, developed and operated. He will spend the summer in the Bohemia mines where he has valuable claims.

F. J. Blakely, who recently returned from the East, says there is plenty of money in the East seeking investments, and that thousands of people are coming to Oregon this year, all of whom will visit the Lewis and Clark fair. The only way we can get these settlers and investors to come to Douglas county is to show what our resources are. We simply can't afford to miss this great opportunity and see other counties get what we should have ourselves if a proper effort is made.

H. E. Lounsbury, general freight agent of the S. P. Company, remembered the Plaindealer with a pleasant call while in town Friday. He said there was a decided improvement in the general lumber market of late which would probably result in the early starting up of the many sawmills which have been shut down for some months. He also said that Roseburg would get a full share of the money to be expended in improvements on the S. P. Railroad this season, a new round house being among the improvements contemplated at this place.



Douglas County Court House.

hotel and school. Stage line from Drain makes connection here with steamers for Gardiner, carrying passengers, mail and freight.

Elkton is situated on the Umpqua river at the mouth of Elk creek, 16 miles west of Drain. It is a station on the Drain-Gardiner stage and mail route. Founded in 1850, the first convention held in Douglas (then Umpqua) county was under an old oak tree at this place in 1851; population 150. Supports a sawmill flouring mill, has a good school and church, several business houses and is surrounded by a large stock and farming country.

Looking Glass is situated ten miles west of Roseburg on the Coos Bay wagon road, near the center of a beautiful little valley that has a population of about 700 inhabitants; the station itself contains about 100 people. The chief resources are grain, fruit and stockraising. Has two general merchandise stores and good school.

Camas Valley is situated in the western part of the county on the Roseburg-Myrtle Point stage and mail route, 27 miles from Roseburg, has a daily mail each way and is on the line of the proposed Coos Bay, Roseburg & Eastern railroad. The valley is seven miles long by three in width, altitude about 700 feet, drained by the Coquille river. The soil is very rich and productive and well adapted to fruits, grains and grasses. It is surrounded by an immense timber belt; lumbering is carried on. Has fine farms, contains two stores, church, two schools, two saw mills. Population 400 and is a prosperous community.

Glendale is situated on the southern limits of Douglas county, and is a prosperous town of 400 inhabitants. Has two hotels, school, church and several business houses. It is on the line of the S. P. R. R. and a distributing point for numerous mines, wood camps, and sawmills. The wagon road to the Gold Bug mine and others, start from this place. It is the business point of upper Cow Creek valley, and is admirably located, nestled in the mountains with splendid spring water, and above all, a most healthful resort. Game of all kind abundant, and is an ideal place for recreation.

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Roseburg's City Hall.

steadily increasing, we need only to say that the annual shipments now require from ten to fifteen heavily loaded trains, which, if coupled together, would extend a distance of considerably over a mile. A mile of cars laden with Douglas county fruit is something scarcely dreamed of a few years ago, yet so rapidly has the production increased that this has now become an accomplished fact yearly. And yet most of the orchards are still young and many more are just coming into bearing. More trees are annually being planted. The output has doubled in the past four years and is still moving forward without abatement.

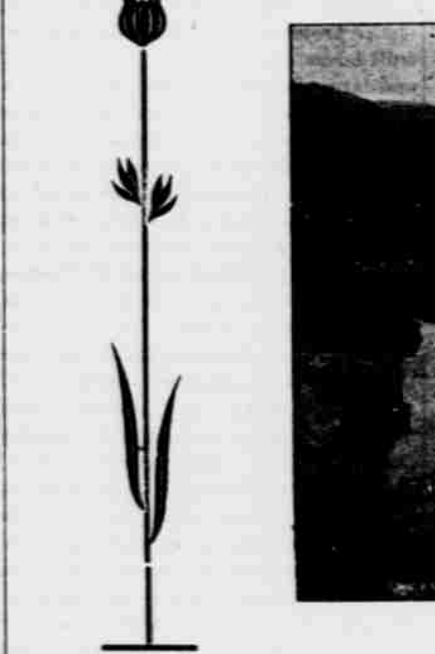
Douglas County Timber

Forests of thousands of acres in extent and of the finest qualities exist in Douglas county, Oregon and are as yet practically untouched by the lumberman.

The density and value of these forests may be judged by the fact that they are estimated by careful and competent cruisers to contain from 3,000,000 to 12,000,000 feet of merchantable timber per quarter section of land. Several bodies of timber covering many continuous square miles of land in various parts of the county are estimated to average 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 feet per quarter section. Such forests as these delight the lumbermen from any country, and well they may. There are thousands of trees from four to seven feet and upwards in diameter, standing tall and straight and reaching 100 feet or more to the first limbs. Thousands of timber claims have been located in this land district in the past three years, and the stream of takers from the denuded timber regions of the East and Middle West continues unabated. Operators are also coming and scores of mills—a few are already running—will very soon be converting this vast virgin wealth to the use and benefit of mankind. In this mild climate the timber is accessible at all seasons of the year, and the streams are never obstructed with ice.

Mines and Mining

Gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, nickel, platinum, clonabar, coal, iron, limestone, marble, building stone and others of nature's mineral products are found extensively in all parts of the county, and it is now thought the county contains large quantities of petroleum. Placer gold mining has been carried on extensively since the early 40's, and the placer mines are still yielding large quantities of the yellow metal. Among the important streams for placer mining might be mentioned Cow Creek and its



Partial View of the City of Roseburg.

ities. In the Cow Creek district near Riddle is situated an extensive nickel mine the largest deposit of nickel ore known, but at present is not operated. Mining industry being well established, and with the large area of unexplored ground, the mining interests are likely to receive much greater attention in the near future than has ever before been given it.

The City of Roseburg

Business in every district radiates from a common center. Be the area large or small, there is always one commercial point to and from which a predominate of business affairs converge and radiate. In Southern Oregon the City of Roseburg is the recognized leader in population and business importance. In this respect the figures given in the last U. S. census reports are misleading. This is partially accounted for by the fact that the town was first incorporated 33 years ago, having then but a few hundred inhabitants. Now with the suburbs, it easily contains 4000 which were included in the corporate boundaries at the last session of the legislature. The new census now about completed for

ing 75 miles by rail from Eugene on the north and 99 miles from Grants Pass on the south, the two nearest county seat towns in either direction, it is the center of a large territory of vast natural wealth. These various resources are mentioned at some length in other parts of this article. Following is something of the town itself, with its business and institutions of various kinds.

Public Institutions.

Since the earlier settlement of the country a United States land office has been located here, the Roseburg land district comprising practically all that part of the state lying west of the Cascade mountains and south of and including part of Linn county.

A government weather bureau office has been maintained here for the past 25 years, the present officer in charge being Thomas Gibson, an observer of many years' experience. The Oregon Soldiers' Home is located just west of town, and a large number of worthy veterans of the various wars in our state and nation are here maintained in comfort during their declining years. The usual national aid is also extended to the members of this institution.

Being the county seat, a commodious brick courthouse and substantial jail are among the necessary adjuncts. These buildings occupy a beautiful public square, with fine trees along its borders and a well-kept lawn. The city hall is a substantial two-story brick building, one-half of which is devoted to the use of the Roseburg fire department. The other half is occupied by the city officials and the city baetic Roseburg has a first-class water and electric light plant, owned and operated by a private corporation. It gives excellent service throughout the city. It is operated by water power, being fully equipped, however, with full auxiliary steam power plants for use in any emergency.

An extensive sewerage system reaches nearly all parts of the city. During the past few years many blocks of the principal business streets have been graded and surfaced with a good covering of crushed rock. Protection against fire is provided by numerous hydrants attached to the city water mains, and there is ample pressure to throw streams over any building in the city. Hoses, carts, hook and ladder truck and other apparatus are in readiness for instant use. The volunteer fire department includes Rescue Hook and Ladder Company, Rose Hose Company and Umpqua Tender Company and are governed by a

our county more than forty church buildings now being used for divine worship, and representing the various denominations, Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Christian, Episcopalian, Free Methodist, United Brethren, Adventist, Catholic, etc.

Building Activity in Roseburg

While the building season usually comprises the spring, summer and autumn months in this part of Oregon, building operations were in progress all last winter in Roseburg and carpenters and brick masons lost but little time. The large and imposing two-story brick B. P. O. Elks' temple which was commenced just before the New Year is now nearing completion and is a handsome structure. Already this season a score or more commodious of residences have been completed in this city ranging in cost from \$1000 to \$3,500; dozens brick store buildings have been completed; one iron building has been erected, other new bricks are under course of construction, the finest being the new department store building of Fisher & Bellows. It is also stated that the Watson order has purchased a corner lot on Jackson street and will build a magnificent three-story temple thereon. Much permanent street work has been accomplished or is in progress and the saw and hammer is heard in various parts of the city where many cozy homes are being erected. Why this building activity? is the question all ask, but after due reflection it is easily answered, simply from the fact that the town is enjoying a steady, permanent growth and is only keeping pace with the growth and development of this rich and resourceful country.

Other County Towns.

Oakland is situated on the S. P. R. R., 20 miles north of Roseburg, on Calapooia creek; population about 400; is an important shipping point for farm products, stock, poultry, fruit and hops. Has good schools, several church denominations, tile and brick factory and flouring mill. It is beautifully situated and well supplied with good water. It is a thriving little town.

Yoncalla is situated a few miles north of Oakland on the S. P. R. R. Has a population of about 350; with good schools and churches. There is much building activity at this place including several bricks. It is a fine fruit section.

Drain is located on the S. P. R. R. near the north end of the county; population about 400. Stockraising and lumbering is carried on extensively. Several large sawmills are located near by. Piling timber is also cut and shipped from here in large quantities. The Central Oregon State Normal School is located here. It is also the terminal of

Canyonville is located one mile from the South Umpqua river and six miles east of Riddle; is a thriving village and has the distinction of being the oldest town in the county, founded in 1852. It was for years, prior to the building of the O. & C. R. R., an important stage station on the line of the Oregon and California stage route. It is in the center of an extensive farming, stockraising and fruit growing section. Mining has been carried on ever since 1852, population 350. Has a flouring mill, two hotels, stores, school and churches.

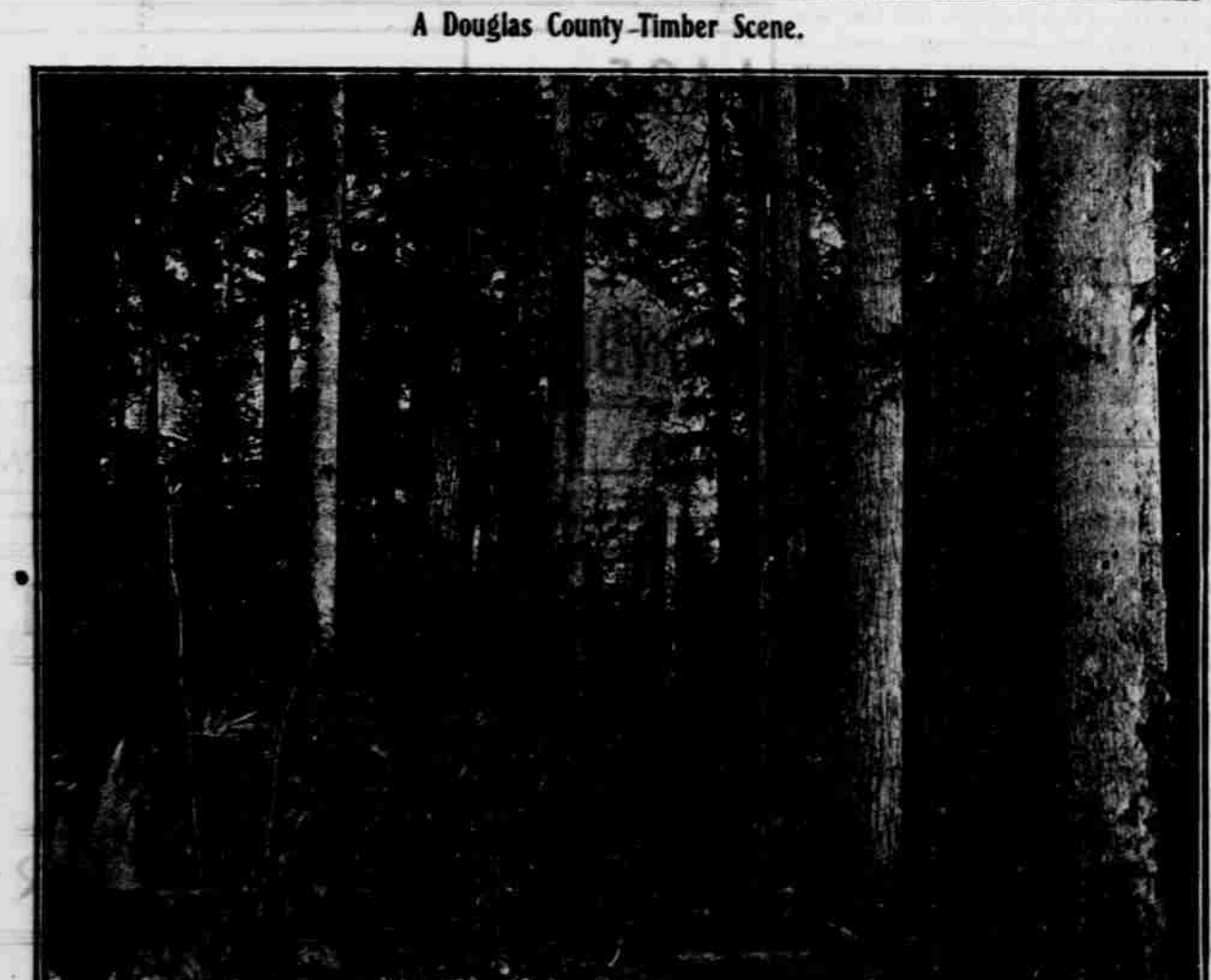
Winchester is situated on the southern limits of Douglas county, and is a prosperous town of 400 inhabitants. Has two hotels, school, church and several business houses. It is on the line of the S. P. R. R. and a distributing point for numerous mines, wood camps, and sawmills. The wagon road to the Gold Bug mine and others, start from this place. It is the business point of upper Cow Creek valley, and is admirably located, nestled in the mountains with splendid spring water, and above all, a most healthful resort. Game of all kind abundant, and is an ideal place for recreation.

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Roseburg's \$25,000 High School Building.



A Douglas County-Timber Scene.