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THURSDAY - DEC. 21, 1911

**CENTRAL OREGON**

In an address before the State Thresherman's Association at Salem recently Carl R. Gray, president of the Hill lines in this state predicted that Central Oregon will become one of the wealthiest areas in the United States.

Following is his speech:  
"It is altogether probable that the intimate relation of the railroad I have the honor to represent with the hitherto practically unknown great central area of this state is the reason, I have been asked to address you and particularly the reason for the subject which has been assigned to me.

"There is nothing new or experimental in the country lying west of the Cascades. The three great valleys have been successfully cultivated for generations and there should be no question in the mind of anyone as to the greatness and extent of their future possibilities.

"I find very few people, however, who really know much about the district which is now familiarly called Central Oregon. To be exact, it is the vast territory lying east of the Cascade range and extending from the Columbia river to California, containing five counties—Sherman, Wasco, Crook, Lane and Harney—with a population of 38,610.

"These five counties have about four times the area of Maryland with one-thirteenth its population. They average one and one-third persons to the square mile; they have more than one-half the area of Iowa and less than one-sixtieth of its population; they have 485 acres per person—Iowa has 16. In Crook, Harney and Lake counties the average population is seven-tenth of a person per square mile, in Crook county one and one-fifth persons.

Nevertheless, material advancement has been made, even without transportation facilities, which is evidenced by the single fact that Crook county in 1901, had but one threshing outfit which handled 100,000 bushels of grain, while in 1909, there were 15 which threshed more than 2,000,000 bushels.

It is estimated that one-third of the acres of Wasco and Crook counties are susceptible of agriculture, being 531,472 in Wasco, 1,707,520 in Crook; one-fourth of Harney county, or 1,095,640 acres it is estimated can be cultivated. Figures are not immediately available for Sherman and Lake, but it can reasonably be assumed that these five counties contain 5,000,000 acres of tillable land.

"There are at the present time in the several segregations between 750,000 and 800,000 acres of land which can and will be irrigated, and there are easily 1,000,000 acres which will come within this category within the next few years.

"I am assured by agricultural experts that all of this land is susceptible of cultivation, the returns being unquestionable where intelligent and correct methods are followed. When one applies these figures and appreciates their potential force it is staggering, but it is not going to come at once, nor without effort.

"Down south a negro was convicted of murder and sentenced to death. The judge said to him: 'The sentence of this court is that you be confined in the county jail until the 22d day of August, and that on that date you be taken to the place of execution and there hanged by the neck until you are dead, and may God have mercy on your soul.' The thing seemed

to sink rather slowly into the negro's full consciousness; he shifted around first on one foot and then the other and finally addressing the court in a pleading manner, said:

"Say jedge, you don't mean this comin' August does you'?"

Neither do I mean 'this coming august' or this coming year. Central Oregon present man's size problems. It is practically without agricultural history or precedent. The vast acres are there; varying climatic conditions must be reckoned with; all the problems of proper seed, soil analysis, utilization of moisture, correct rotation, are to be met with and solved.

"The crying need of the country is naturally for people, but the greater need is for people of the right sort and to see that they are started right. A sufficient sum of money has been raised by contributions from the railroads, business interests of Portland and in Crook county, to establish and maintain for nearly two years, or until the legislature can assume its proper responsibilities, two experimental stations in that county—one to teach dry and the other irrigated farming.

"While at least two experimental farms will be maintained, we expect the best results to flow from intimate instruction given to the farmer upon his own land. We feel a natural and pardonable pride in having accomplished this much, still it is but a drop in the bucket when compared with the necessities of the whole situation.

"Oregon is essentially an agricultural state, and we have at Corvallis a remarkable agricultural college. Properly supported and enabled to extend its operations by subordinate stations throughout the entire state, it can be counted on to do more for the commercial advancement of the state than any other agency.

"In European countries agricultural education has received far more attention than with us. In Denmark, which is about the size of Crook and Harney counties, there are more than 50 agricultural colleges and schools, and the state provides in almost every neighborhood its experts to continually counsel with and advise the farmers.

"The figures with respect to wheat in the United States are startling. The exports for the fiscal year 1909 were 65,479,311 bushels; for the fiscal year 1910, 44,353,949 bushels, and for the fiscal year of 1911, 24,388,619 bushels. These figures indicate that the surplus of wheat in our country is diminishing very rapidly and will disappear entirely within the next year or two unless there is a radical change. One of the reasons, naturally, is the increase in population and the decrease in proportion of farmers.

"A few years ago a farmers' products fed himself and one other; now they must feed himself and two others. In 1901 there was 9.81 bushels of wheat raised per capita; in 1911, 7.13 bushels.

"It seems to me to be entirely reasonable to say that Central Oregon can be made the granary of the state, but to do this it must be peopled and they must be educated and assisted. It is not a universal condition, but so frequently is it the case as to attain unpleasant prominence, that lands are held at too high a price. This will not be a continuing condition, however, and will largely regulate itself; but it does not have its adverse effect at the present and does tend to postpone settlement.

"The question is one in which all our interests are mutual. We unquestionably have the country, and we evidently have favorable conditions of soil and climate. Rarely does a new country start with so inviting a prospect. It is fair to say that the railroads have done their share and are now only awaiting an evidence of

co-operation and progress to advance even further into the interior than they are at present." —Portland Oregonian.

An article printed in the daily papers a few days ago says that A. C. Bryce, who was United States consul at Matanzas, Cuba, in 1897, is authority for the statement that he received warning two days before the Maine was blown up that the ship was to be destroyed and that he so advised Consul General Fitzhugh Lee. The latter paid no attention to the warning. Bryce says the man who warned him was not an American and that he is under promise not to reveal his name. If he should continue faithful to his promise the government should send Detective Burns down there to find out who the fellow is who foreshadowed the disaster.

The Pioneer extends its readers best wishes for a Merry Christmas and prosperous and Happy New Year.

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for Christmas is a pretty gold Bracelet, which every young lady will appreciate. I have some very pretty designs in Bracelets, the workmanship on some of them is exquisite. I carry a fine line of first class Gold and Silver Jewelry, including Watches, Chains, Charms, Brooches, Rings, Stick Pins, Hatpins, Locketts, etc., etc.  
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**AUCTION SALE OF FURNITURE**  
**TUESDAY**  
**DEC. 26**

Having disposed of only about one-half of my stock at my recent auction sale, I will hold another auction Tuesday, December 16. Tables, Chairs, Dressers, Modes, Chiffoniers, Iron Beds, Mattresses, Sanitary Couches, Cots, Couches, Stands, Book Cases, Wall Paper, etc.

Sale Commences at 10:30  
Lunch Will Be Served at 12:30  
Your last opportunity to get furniture at your own price

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Meets every Saturday night. Strangers welcome.  
Tillman Reuter, N. G.  
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**Notice to Land Seekers**  
**CENTRAL OREGON IRRIGATION COMPANY**  
has moved its ENGINEERING, CASHIER'S and LAND SALES OFFICES to the new town of  
**DESCHUTES, CENTRAL OREGON**  
All parties having business with this company should write to call at Deschutes.  
Hotel accommodations can now be secured at DESCHUTES.  
Write for BOOKLET describing CAREY ACT IRRIGATION LANDS.  
**Central Oregon Irrigation Company**  
Deschutes Crook County Oregon  
On both the Hill and the Harriman Railroads

**MADRAS HARNESS SHOP**  
**30 Days Clearance Sale Commencing Nov. 15**  
CONCORD HARNESS  
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CHAIN HARNESS  
HACK HARNESS  
DOUBLE BUGGY HARNESS  
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WHIPS  
ROBES  
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Strap work and hardware of every description  
In fact a complete line of horse goods will be sacrificed during the next few days. Don't forget the place, first door south of postoffice  
**FRED DAVIS, Mgr.** **MADRAS, OREGON**