

## COOS COUNTY COAL FIELDS

THE COAL deposits of Coos county make up one of the most valuable resources. While coal mining has been carried on to a considerable extent during past years, the resources are one which will permit of great development in the future. In fact, the coal of Coos county is regarded as one of the chief assets of the locality.

One feature which gives the Coos county coal particular value is the fact that the locality is the only place where coal is found in any place where it is found on the Pacific coast south of Puget Sound. In central Oregon in the neighborhood of Madras good indications have been found. Coos has also been found near Vale in Malheur county, Jackson and Wasco counties also have been found in Polk and other western counties but the fields of Coos county are by far the most valuable in the state and the industry of coal mining has been a more important one in this locality than in any part of Oregon.

**Field Extensive.**  
Most of the government investigations of the coal fields of Coos county were made by J. S. Diller of the geological survey of the Department of the Interior. Mr. Diller in his latest reports states that the coal of Coos county is classed as sub-bituminous coal as recognized by the geological survey.

The Coos Bay coal field embraces nearly 250 square miles. It has

The Westport and Pulaski arches. The Newport basin has only one bed of coal extensively worked. It contains about six feet of coal in three benches, yielding five feet of workable coal. The basin originally contained over 6,000,000 tons of coal most of which was available.

The Beaver Slough basin has a length of over twenty miles extending from Riverton to the north limits of Coos Bay. The basin is deep and extends far below the sea level. The South Slough basin extends in places to the coast and the Coquille basin extends from the town of Coquille west and south and is best exposed along the Coquille river south of the town about four miles.

The character of the coal mined is indicated by the analysis of a product of the Beaver Hill mine which is as follows:

Fixed carbon ..... 50.21 per cent  
Volatile matter ..... 32.69 per cent  
Moisture ..... 14.84 per cent  
Ash ..... 2.35 per cent

100.00 per cent  
**Beaver Hill Mine.**

The largest mine in the county is the Beaver Hill, owned by the Beaver Hill Coal company, which is a Southern Pacific corporation. The mine is located about twelve miles from Marshfield and is reached by a branch of the railroad between Coos Bay and Coquille. The coal is brought by train to Marshfield or to large coal bunkers on the waterfront of the bay. The mine is

Hennessey of this city was manager for years. A private railroad from the mine to Marshfield made it possible to bring the coal to tide water. Over a year ago the mine was closed down and the town was almost deserted but recently the mine together with large real estate holdings was sold to the Reynolds Development Company of Spokane. That company has leased the mine to George Doll who is opening it and will continue its operation.

A few miles west of Marshfield is a mine which was opened a few years ago by Andrew McClelland of Pueblo, Colo., and which is now operating and selling coal on the local market.

A large mine recently opened on the east side of the bay opposite Marshfield and known as the Mill-coma mine has been sold by J. A. Ward to the Mill-coma Development Company, a corporation formed by local business men for the purpose of developing the property. Mr. Ward is the manager for the company. There are three good workable veins on the property. A railroad to deep water and a bunker on the waterfront have been built and other machinery installed. It is claimed for the mine that it has the advantage of being near to the shipping facilities and that the quality of the coal is good.

The Lillian coal mine on Coos River was opened and operated by L. J. Simpson some years ago but that mine is now closed. The property included about 900 acres of coal lands.

On Catalina Inlet between Marshfield and Sumner a small coal mine

is assumed as a domestic coal or for steam production on ocean vessels and navy warships. The tests which have been made so far indicate that the plan of the inventors is entirely a success.

While as an industry coal mining has done much to advance Coos county the great extent of the coal as a natural resource is believed to be an asset which will in the future help to bring Coos county to the front in the industrial world.

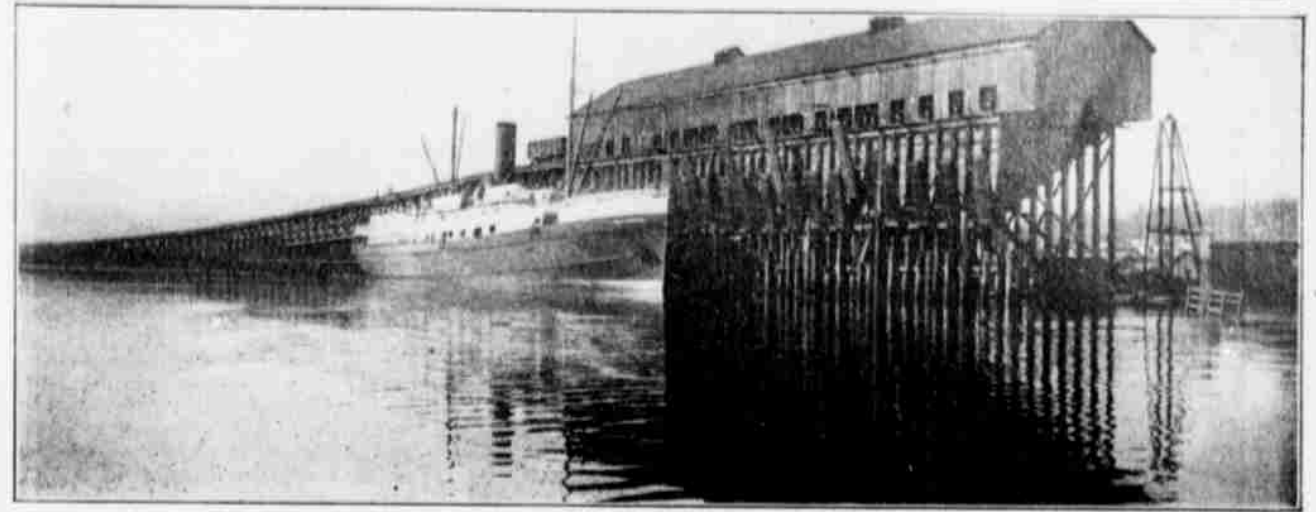
Stock raising is an important industry in this country, and the conditions of the very best, as little or no winter feeding of stock is necessary.

## THE CLIMATE OF COOS BAY

A WESTERNER is essentially a "booster." He is loyal to his town first, then loyal to his particular section of the West, and finally he widens his loyalty to embrace the whole of that vast, indefinite region termed "the West." This loyalty will sometimes lead the western citizen into exaggeration. He is apt to extol beyond its deserts the scenic beauty and the business advantages of his town, but he is most prone to play fast and loose with the weather. Get an enthusiastic westerner and he'll make you believe that

to which few pay little attention. Dark and cloudy days are relieved so much and so often by days of brilliancy that there is no thought of monotony.

**Sunshine.**  
The annual average amount of sunshine on Coos Bay is 40 per cent of the possible. The sunshine is rather unequally distributed throughout the year, the distributions following closely the dry and wet seasons. The month of maximum sunshine is July, with an average of 63 per cent; that of minimum



STEAMER LOADING AT MARSHFIELD COAL BUNKERS.

## SHIPPING AND COMMERCE

SHIPPING is one of the important features of the commercial life of Coos county and the possibilities in this line are so great that it will be a chief factor in the future development. Coos Bay is the main shipping point of the county on account of the fine harbor. The Coquille river is another shipping point which serves well in sending

the mild sunshine of a balmy spring sheds a perpetual radiance over his town; that there is never either heat or cold there, nor rain, nor storm.

**An Equable Climate.**

But Coos county has as equable a climate as can be found anywhere. There are really no extremes here. The days never grow abnormally hot in the summer nor abnormally cold in the winter. The four seasons of the temperate zone shade into one another so gradually that sometimes we think that we are at the dawn of spring when we should be in the middle of winter. To the Japan current can be attributed the

mum sunshine December, with an average of 18 per cent.  
From 150 to 165 rainy days, that is days on which the precipitation will reach 0.01 inches—may be expected—at least that is the average—last year's official records showing 155 days.

The official record for last year given herewith shows that the rainy season extends from November to April. But the rainfall throughout these months is not incessant. It is intermittent, a sort of a succession of storms with intervals of clear or partly cloudy days. And it is only the rare storm that is particularly



THE LIBBY MINE FROM WHICH HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TONS OF COAL HAVE BEEN SHIPPED TO THE SAN FRANCISCO AND PORTLAND MARKETS.

a length north and south of about thirty miles and a maximum breadth of about eleven miles. The northern part of the coal field is intersected by Coos Bay and the southern part is the territory through which the Coquille river flows. These two ocean outlets give the locality special advantages as there are few places in the world where coal can be mined so close to tide water.

The coal mined is a good domestic coal, is sold extensively in Portland and San Francisco and is used by many of the coastwise vessels. It has also been tested as fuel on torpedo boats of the United States navy. The only transportation for the coal at the present time is of course by water. Railroads of various length

been operated for many years and was sold to the Southern Pacific when the latter company bought the railroad and other holdings in this county six or seven years ago. W. S. Chandler was prominent in the development of the mine, being manager of the railroad and mine when it was under his receivership and also for a time after the purchase was made by the Southern Pacific.

Surrounding the mine is quite a little settlement, the town being known as Beaver Hill. Many miners reside there with their families and large boarding houses and a store are operated by the company. The Beaver Hill coal is perhaps regarded as the best that the county has yet produced. In addition to the mine as it is now being worked the com-

is operated by a local company. On Isthmus Inlet are the Henryville and Maxwell mines which are not now operated. The former is owned by the Southern Pacific and will probably be operated in the future. Many small private mines are successfully operated on a small scale in different localities of Coos Bay. Among these is the mine of Al Smith on Coos River.

In the Coquille Valley section of the county coal mining is an important industry. At Riverton on the Coquille river there are several mines with railroads and large bunkers. Ocean-going boats can come up the river from Bandon and load coal at Riverton. The Pert mine, Coquille and others in that

by water to other markets the products of that section.

The shipments from Coos Bay are mainly coastwise, to Portland, San Francisco and San Pedro, the lumber going to the two last named places. An occasional cargo goes to a foreign port. With a railroad connecting Coos Bay with the interior country the port will become a gateway to the Orient and foreign countries, serving as the outlet for the products of a vast country behind it. The importance of the place as a shipping point will be greatly advanced by the opening of the Panama canal. Passenger boats now ply between Coos Bay and Portland, San Francisco, Eureka and smaller ports. These also carry general freight of all kinds in and out. Sailing vessels and steam schooners, some of the latter the largest on the coast, carry cargoes of lumber to San Francisco and San Pedro which are the chief distributing places for the products of the mills. Smaller boats make regular trips to nearby minor harbors, Coos Bay being the most convenient trading place and point for trans-shipment. The exports from the harbor besides lumber consist of the products of the sash and door and shingle factories, the creameries, the farms, the various manufacturing plants, and coal which is carried to California points for sale and is used by many of the steamers. The imports include everything needed by the locality from the outside. About 800 boats of different kinds crossed in over the Coos Bay bar during 1911.

Bandon has a smaller harbor but one capable of great development and will not admit as large vessels as Coos Bay but serves as the ocean outlet for a large territory, thus avoiding the shipment to the bay. Three first-class steamers carrying passengers and lumber and general freight make regular trips between the Coquille river and San Francisco. Another boat runs to Coos Bay and a number of sailing vessels visit the port for lumber, and go up the river to the various mills.

The annual shipments of lumber from Coos Bay amount to about 150,000,000 feet and from the Coquille river about 45,000,000 feet. This makes a total of about 200,000,000 feet of lumber shipped annually from Coos county. In a few years, as the milling industries increase, the shipments will become great and the locality advanced in importance from a commercial standpoint.

A great railroad terminus and an industrial center, combined with the finest harbor facilities should make a great city anywhere. Coos Bay has all three factors.



GATHERING THE BEAUTIFUL RHODODENDRON BLOSSOMS



A NINE-FOOT VEIN OF COAL NEAR GLASGOW.

are used to carry the coal from the different mines up the bunkers on deep water where the coal can be loaded into boats.

**Coal Formations.**  
There are several formations of the coal, among them the Empire, the Coalco and the Pulaski formations. The government geologists divide the coal field into six portions, four basins and two arches. The basins contain the coal and the arches bring to the surface the underlying strata which are generally without coal beds. The basins are the Newport, the Beaver Slough, the Coquille and the South Slough. They are separated by what are known as

pany is sinking a new shaft which will be 3,000 feet deep and will go down farther than any other mine in the locality. It is said that this development will require an outlay of about \$200,000 on the part of the company but it is hoped that it will result in a great increase in the output of the mine.

**Other Coal Mines.**  
The Newport mine, commonly known as the Libby mine, the latter being the name of the little town where it is located, is about three miles from Marshfield. It also has been operated for many years by the Oregon Coal and Navigation Company of San Francisco. Patrick

district have been successfully operated.

**Briquet Possibilities.**  
The briquetting of Coos county coal is an industry which it is thought will become highly important in the future. The plan to use the waste coal in the form of briquettes and make a good steam fuel, it is believed, will greatly advance the industry. Dr. E. Mings of Marshfield, and H. C. Diers of North Bend, have invented a process for using the waste coal of the mines, the waste wood and saw dust from the mills and even the waste left on the ground after logging, in making a fuel which can be con-

## Coos Bay Weather in 1911

Month.	Temperature.			Rain Days.	Rainy days.	Clear days.	Partly cloudy days.	Cloudy days.
	Highest.	Lowest.	Average.					
Jan. . . 56	23	49.8	5.56	18	2	10	19	
Feb. . . 57	26	41.3	5.55	15	8	5	15	
Mar. . . 77	28	47.9	2.99	11	13	5	13	
Apr. . . 79	28	45.6	4.91	13	11	7	12	
May. . . 69	35	49.4	5.26	21	6	6	18	
June. . . 72	34	52.8	1.21	7	15	1	14	
July. . . 77	42	57.8	0.66	6	21	6	4	
Aug. . . 79	42	58.8	0.23	7	21	4	6	
Sep. . . 68	37	53.9	3.01	14	10	4	16	
Oct. . . 78	34	57.1	2.76	9	14	3	14	
Nov. . . 65	27	47.6	7.11	18	6	5	19	
Dec. . . 62	24	42.3	9.51	22	7	4	20	

Highest temperature during the year 79, date Aug. 23.  
Lowest temperature during the year 23, date Jan. 23.  
Mean temperature for the year 49.6  
Total rainfall for the year 57.21  
Number of rainy days 155; clear 134; part cloudy 60; cloudy 171.  
Number of times temperature fell below 32, 58.  
Number of times temperature went above 75.4.  
Last killing frost of the Spring, date April 30th.  
First killing frost of the Fall, date November 11th.  
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U. S. Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau,  
Station Marshfield, County of Coos, State of Oregon.  
Annual Summary Report for the year of 1911.



BEAVER HILL COAL MINE