

# COLUMBIA COUNTY'S DAY AT FAIR



Columbia County's Booth in the Agricultural Palace.—In the Picture Is Shown a Slab of Red Cedar, 20 Feet Long, 33 Inches Wide, Without a Knot or Flaw.—Photograph by Kiser, Photographic Company.

Columbia county furnished the largest logs used in constructing the "Forestry" building, was the statement made by the hundreds of persons from that county today in the exercises at the Oregon building.

"We have on exhibition the largest salmon ever shown frozen in a block," said another boarder, who pointed to a 63-pound Royal Chinook, caught in the Columbia river along the county's waterfront and displayed at the booth by E. H. Flagg and Miss Nora Conyers, in charge of the exhibit. "You can buy land at \$5 an acre fit for raising fruit good enough for a king within 70 miles of Portland and clear and plant it to trees for from \$50 to \$100 an acre," was the information given to home-seekers.

"Most of the late cherries in the display of the state in the Agricultural palace were supplied by Columbia county," said the orchardists, while the farmers called attention to the enormous quantities of potatoes, among which were potatoes measuring more than a foot. Columbia county entertained this afternoon at the Oregon state building, heard an address of welcome from President Myers of the state commission, a response by Judge T. A. McBride of the Fifth judicial district, solos by Miss Mary Conyers of Clatskanie and Miss Maude Watts of Scappoose, a piano solo by Miss Beale Hattan of St. Helens, a violin solo by Miss Annie English of Clatskanie and music by the Administration band and enjoyed a reception by the Columbia county people to their friends to whom were served ice cream, punch and cake.

Columbia county told the people of Portland that they are her nearest neighbors; that she spends here annually \$11,000,000; that she needs a railroad and that Portland should build it, and that money invested in such an enterprise would bring good return on the outlay. It was shown that immense deposits of coal and iron in the Nehalem valley await development and that practically every acre of timber land is fertile and raises abundant crops after it is cleared. The fishing industry received attention and the dairies were declared to be as good as any in the west.

Only 10,000 persons live in the county, although half a million could be supported were the natural resources brought into use. President Myers spoke briefly in welcoming the Columbia county people and Judge McBride gave an eloquent exposition of the history of the locality and dwelt on the possibilities when the 10,000,000,000 feet of timber shall have been cleared away and the land devoted to the uses of the husbandman.

It was one of the pleasantest county days that have been given at the exposition and advertised the communities as worthy of inspection by home-seekers.

## A VARIED EXHIBIT.

Columbia County's Display Fitted Together by Pieces From Many Sources.

By Miss Nora Conyers.

Columbia county, situated in the northwestern part of the state, beginning 15 miles below Portland, has a 75-mile frontage on the Columbia river toward Astoria, and extends back over the hills and valleys of the Cascade range toward the ocean. It is an undeveloped region where settlers can find land in plenty and where they will be able to make a home and raise a crop a year after settlement. There is some government land still open to settlement.

It has been heavily timbered in all parts, but the valleys along the Columbia and tributaries have been cleared and here a rich agricultural and dairying section is found. After the timber has been disposed of, land can be bought at ridiculously low prices. Unimproved land 25 miles from Portland, near a railroad, can be had for \$5 an acre, which is the best improved farms, dairy herds, hopyards and mills in the state, while their forests are still untouched. A railroad is in course of construction now, which is hoped will connect this territory with the outside markets. A broad-gauge logging railroad at Clatskanie is working toward Nehalem and will eventually reach there. Well improved farms can be bought for \$25 an acre.

The Clatskanie and Beaver valleys are dotted with lumber and shingle mills and big logging camps, while the same conditions exist in regard to agriculture, dairying and fruit raising as in other parts of the county.

The Columbia county exhibit at the exposition is showing as far as possible its varied resources.

From the historic town of St. Helens, the county seat, come quarry stone, English walnuts, fruits and vegetables and an English vine 14 inches in diameter and 35 feet high, planted 25 years ago on the old McBride home.

From the cold storage plant at Goble is a 63-pound Royal Chinook salmon frozen in a cake of ice.

Rainier has its interests represented by the cedar front of the booth, a sawed cedar board 20 feet long and 52 inches wide, fancy doors and a mineral soap manufactured there.

Clatskanie furnished the ceiling of the booth, tall grasses and the largest potatoes in the building.

Quincy and Ingls, on the line of the A. & C. Ry., near Clatskanie, show shingles and cedar poles.

Mayors furnished the state fruit exhibit as well as the county with late cherries. These were fine specimens

of Oregon fruit and were grown about 2,000 feet above the Columbia river.

Scappoose and Warren have on display grain, apples, corn and two silver cups won at the Oregon state fair on dairy herds.

Houlton has a coopers exhibit.

Other localities represented by grains and grasses are Fishhawk, Apfary, Reuben, Yankton, Mist and Marshland.

The pioneer method of handling a "stump patch" with oxen has been superseded by blasting and burning, and clearing land is not the life-time job of days gone by. There are undeveloped coal, iron and oil prospects all over the county. The principal industries are logging, milling, fishing, farming and dairying.

The county should be proclaiming the fact far and wide that she furnished most if not all of the big fir logs from which the Forestry building is constructed, but she is a very quiet county and has said little about it. These logs were got out at Clatskanie and when the fact is known, that we have 10,000,000,000 feet of standing timber, it will be seen that these logs are but a modest sample.

Rainier, Clatskanie, St. Helens and Houlton are the largest towns, the two first named having 1,000 each, and the population of the entire county does not exceed 10,000. A graded school system is in full force all over the county. The 87 districts have good school buildings and employ from one to five teachers each.

Scappoose, Warren and Deer Island, in the upper end of the county, are becoming well known for dairy products and fruit. Three of the finest thoroughbred registered Jersey herds in the state are to be found here and they will be represented at the Lewis and Clark fair when the stock show opens.

The Nehalem valley is one of the finest and most fertile sections in the whole county. Settlers found their way there 35 years ago and though from 9 to 20 miles from a railroad, they have some of the best improved farms, dairy herds, hopyards and mills in the state, while their forests are still untouched. A railroad is in course of construction now, which is hoped will connect this territory with the outside markets. A broad-gauge logging railroad at Clatskanie is working toward Nehalem and will eventually reach there. Well improved farms can be bought for \$25 an acre.

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## COLEMAN'S FAITH DID WONDERS

### Blalock Made Millions of Bushels of Wheat Grow Where None Grew Before.

## INLAND EMPIRE OWES MUCH TO THE DOCTOR

### Twenty-Five Years Ago Planted Cereals on Stock-Cropped Hills Which Are Now Fields and Orchards of Wealth.

A quarter of a century ago the hill lands of eastern Oregon and Washington were thought to be valueless for grazing only; today they are the scene of a busy harvest, and approximately 50,000,000 bushels of wheat will be marketed this year from the inland empire, in which a small part of Idaho is included. The man who taught the husbandmen what could be done with these hill lands is Dr. N. G. Blalock of Walla Walla, Washington, who is in the city for a few days.

Dr. Blalock was one of the most active proponents of the portage road at Clallo and is devoting much of his time to developing the transportation system that will give the inland empire water competition against the excessive rates charged by the rail lines for carrying products oceanward.

Dr. Blalock was a prosperous physician practicing in Walla Walla 25 years ago; it is said that for years his revenues averaged \$100 a day, and that he virtually abandoned this lucrative employment to throw himself into the work of promoting the country by introducing new ideas.

When he told the farmers who were operating in the river bottoms only that he believed the hills would produce wheat and other cereals, they said he was another of those town fellows who thought they knew more of agriculture than men who had given their lives to its study.

### What Faith and Perseverance Did.

But his faith was strong in the possibilities of hill-land wheat culture, and he proved that his faith was well founded, for he raised wheat from soil which theretofore had grown bunchgrass only, and was presumed to be good for nothing else than the grazing of herds and flocks.

With this tangible proof before them other farmers took hill ranches and today the rolling prairies of Walla Walla county, Washington, Umatilla county, Oregon, Whitman county, Washington, and others stretching to the north toward Spokane, are a system of elevators, field of wheat, from which each year is harvested 50,000,000 bushels. Thus an average of \$25,000,000 is produced annually in agricultural wealth as the result of the experiments of the Walla Walla physician.

Dr. Blalock also took up horticulture and became the foremost authority in that branch of husbandry in the inland empire. He experimented in new varieties of fruits and adapted many to Walla Walla county that had never before been raised there. Inasmuch as the climatic conditions and the soil of that locality were much the same as those in a dozen other counties of eastern Oregon and Washington, the results achieved in Walla Walla county brought prosperity to many places by enabling the diversification of products.

At the present time inland empire fruit is shipped all over the United States and much goes to Europe, where it sells at premium prices.

Walla Walla county is assessed at \$11,987,000, has 6,400 milk cows, raises 100 carloads of alfalfa and 1,500 carloads of fruit and vegetables that sell for \$250,000 a year, produces some of the finest livestock in the west and is a flourishing community that is rapidly developing all the arts of diversified agriculture.

Dr. Blalock owns a ranch of 1,300 acres, from which last year was sold 360 carloads of fruit and vegetables, 100 carloads of alfalfa and 1,500 carloads of honey and quantities of cattle and hogs.

Walla Walla is the county seat, a town of 15,000 people, where Whitman college is located. A mile away is the spot where Marcus Whitman and his missionary band was massacred by the Indians in 1847. Walla Walla is the oldest town of the region, and one of the wealthiest in proportion to population in the west.

## ANTHRACITE MINERS MAY CALL A STRIKE

(Journal Special Service.)

New York, July 29.—Recent declines in the anthracite coal road stocks have revived the rumors of pending labor troubles in the mining districts, and there are many well informed persons who believe that another great anthracite strike is impending.

Presidents of the coal carrying roads ridicule the rumors and assert that they feel there is little danger of a strike. The principal basis for their belief rests upon the fact that the agreement entered into after the memorable strike of a few years ago does not expire until April 1 of next year. The union, it is stated, would not ruthlessly break the agreement before its expiration.

Despite these optimistic declarations, however, it is well known that the labor union leaders have been very active this season in the anthracite districts stirring up the miners and creating enthusiasm for the labor cause. Pickets and other public gatherings have been held at which the cause of the miners was discussed. Incidentally efforts have been made to have the members of the union pay their dues, and the delinquents have been urged to pay their arrears. Those who profess to see in the activity of the union leaders signs of preparations for another anthracite struggle maintain that a great contest will occur next year.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Aberdeen, Wash., July 29.—All mills are now running with full crews. It is the intention to employ only English speaking workmen hereafter as the recent strike is due largely to the inability of the workers to comprehend conditions, as their leaders carried on all the proceedings in the Finnish tongue.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Harriet Howard, of 309 West Thirty-fourth street, New York, at one time had her beauty spoiled with skin trouble. She writes: "I had Salt Rheum or Eczema for years, but nothing would cure it, until I used Bucklen's Arnica Salve. A quick and sure healer for cuts, burns and sores. Sold at Eldridge Drug Co., 151 Third street."

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## WILL SUPPLY FOOD IN WAR TIME

Royal British Commission Scheme for Storage of Supplies for Islanders.

## FIFTY MILLIONS' WORTH OF GRAIN TO BE HELD

Many English Families Have Less Than Six Dollars a Week for Their Support and Would Starve in Case of a Blockade.

(Journal Special Service.)

London, July 29.—It is stated on good authority that the royal commission of food supply in time of war has decided to recommend a scheme for a national storage, adequate to the needs of the country for a period of three months, although imports should be wholly stopped.

Seven million people of the United Kingdom have only \$5.75 a week for the expense of the entire family in normal times. Three-fourths of the foodstuffs imported are subject to capture in the event of war, and prices would so increase as to subject the community to the menace of a starving population. In view of these facts preparations must be made to feed the people.

It is said the commission favors the construction on the Trafford park estate, Manchester, of a system of elevators where three months' food supplies may be stored free of charge to exporters, whence it could be distributed to the general public. It is the intention to store some \$50,000,000 worth of grain alone.

## HARRIMAN PEOPLE AFTER ILLINOIS CENTRAL ROAD

(Journal Special Service.)

Chicago, July 29.—It is currently reported that the Union Pacific is after the Illinois Central with a view of making it an integral part of the Harriman system. Harriman is reported to have offered to lease the road and to give stockholders 5 per cent on their holdings. The road has been paying practically 7 per cent during the last year. Harriman is the largest individual holder of stock in the Illinois Central but his ambition to merge it with the Harriman lines has been successfully opposed by the Vanderbilt and Astor interests. The firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co. has for the last week been steadily accumulating Illinois Central stock, which accounts for the raise in the price throughout the week.

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