

UMATILLA COUNTY LEADS ALL OTHER OREGON COUNTIES IN ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF WHEAT

County is Second in State in Number of Sheep, in Alfalfa Growing and in Orcharding; Pendleton is Center.

First in the State of Oregon in the production of wheat, second in the production of sheep, second in the production of alfalfa, second in orchard fruit production, and eighth in beef cattle production—such is the record of Umatilla county, one of the leading agricultural counties of Oregon.

Five million two hundred thousand bushels of wheat, representing 27 per cent of the total wheat crop of Oregon, were harvested in Umatilla county last year. This year wheat is averaging 40 bushels to the acre and it is estimated that the yield will far exceed that of 1920. Umatilla county, Whitman and Walla Walla counties, the latter two located in Washington, raise more wheat than do any other three counties in the United States.

Center of Wheat Belt.
The total wheat acreage of Umatilla county is 324,000 acres. Pendleton, the county seat, is the center of the wheat belt and much of the grain is grown in and around Pendleton. Other towns in the principal wheat raising sections are Athena, Helix and Echo.

Umatilla county's sheep number 166,649 head, the majority being raised in the Blue mountain region. Their total value, including lambs, ewes, rams and wethers, is given by the census bureau at \$2,132,576. Beef cattle graze also in the Blue mountain region and are estimated at 11,865,141, with a total value of \$1,313,864 including calves, heifers, cows and bulls. Large herds of beef cattle are raised in the region of Ukiah and Pilot Rock, two towns of the cattle producing region of the county.

Horses and mules total 18,181 and 4,294 respectively, the county ranking second in the number of horses and first in the number of mules.

Diversified Farming at Its Best.
Alfalfa is grown in the east end of the county near Milton and Freewater and more extensively in the irrigated districts of the west end in the region of Echo, Stanfield, Hermiston and Umatilla. The total acreage is 29,487 and the number of tons raised last year reached 57,520.

The west end and east end share also in the record of fruit production, Milton and Freewater in the eastern part, being famous for berries and orchard fruits. The orchard fruits harvested last year totaled 532,667 bushels and the small fruits 284,055 quarts. Another profitable industry of Umatilla county is bee keeping, the county ranking first in the production of honey. Bees are kept in the east and west ends of the county, deriving their honey supply from fruit blossoms and alfalfa blooms. Another source of wealth is dairy products. Butter and cheese are produced in these factories and creameries of the county, Stanfield and Hermiston making considerable quantities of cheese. A large creamery which supplies butter and ice cream to a considerable territory is located in Pendleton and secures its cream from Umatilla county dairy herds.

Has Most Improved Land.
The county, situated with Morrow county on the west, Union county on the east, Grant county on the south



Lee Chiswick riding Long Tom.

and the Columbia river and Walla Walla County (Washington) on the north, has an area of 2172 square miles and a population of 20,000. The land in farms is 441,735 acres and the improved land is 621,650 acres, the greatest amount of improved farm land of any county in the state.

There is ample water supply from the Umatilla and Columbia rivers, which are an aid to irrigation, and in addition there are many hot springs including Lehman Springs, Buchanan Springs and Highway Springs. These are popular summer resorts and attract hundreds of tourists each year.

On Line of Tourist Travel.
The Columbia river highway runs through Umatilla county and the La Grande-Pendleton road is the only road admitting tourists to the state of Oregon over the new highway. The county has ever been progressive in road programs and several projects for the improvement of roads are now under way.

The Umatilla Indian reservation is located in Umatilla county and Mission is the agency headquarters. The reservation is rich in wheat land. Another government reserve in the county is the Umatilla forest reserve, which provides ample training grounds for the country's cattle, sheep and horses. Timber may be cut from the forest reserves if special permits are secured.

The government, besides establishing the reservation and forest reserve in the county, has established the government experiment station at Hermiston. Here experiments for the benefit of the farmers of the irrigated region are carried on.

Good Railroad Facilities.
Railroad facilities of Umatilla county are worthy of notice. The W. R. & N. railroad runs along the northern boundary of the county, the principal towns along the railroad being Pendleton, Stanfield, Echo, Hermiston, Umatilla, Nolin, Gibbon and Meacham. A branch line runs from Pendleton to Pilot Rock, Pendleton being the terminus for the branch and of the Washington division, Spokane line, and of the Pasco-Pendleton branch of the Northern Pacific. Twenty-two passenger trains serve Pendleton daily.

The county has a library system which is pointed to by Miss Cornelia, Marvin, state librarian, as the best in the state. The central library is a modern building located in Pendleton and there are 14 branch libraries, as well as 58 school libraries.

An Educational Center.
Pendleton, the county seat of Umatilla county, has excellent educational advantages. It has a mountain water supply, well improved streets, a mild, health-giving climate with cool nights as a summer feature, an altitude of 1076 feet, good civic conditions, modern mercantile houses, and ten churches.

The school system includes three grade schools, a kindergarten, an up-to-date high school and St. Joseph's academy, maintained by the Sisters of St. Francis as a boarding and day school for elementary and higher grades. A summer normal school, a branch of the State Normal, was held in Pendleton during the summers of 1920 and 1921 and will probably be an annual feature. Pendleton is headquarters for the Eastern Oregon session of the Oregon supreme court and for the Eastern Oregon district of the United States district court.

The Eastern Oregon hospital for the insane is located just outside the city's limits. St. Anthony's hospital is located in Pendleton and is conducted by the Sisters of St. Francis. The city has a public natatorium built by subscription at a cost of \$11,000.

Numerous Industrial Plants.
The population by the 1920 census, is 7,287. The wealth of the trading zone is estimated at over \$100,000,000. There are three banks and the city has for some time in the past maintained fourth place in the list of cities having banking deposits over \$1,000,000. Among the industrial plants are a creamery and ice cream factory, four flour mills with a capacity of 500,000 barrels a year, two planing mills, a saddle and harness making plant, employing 39 men, and a woolen mill employing 70 men and women.

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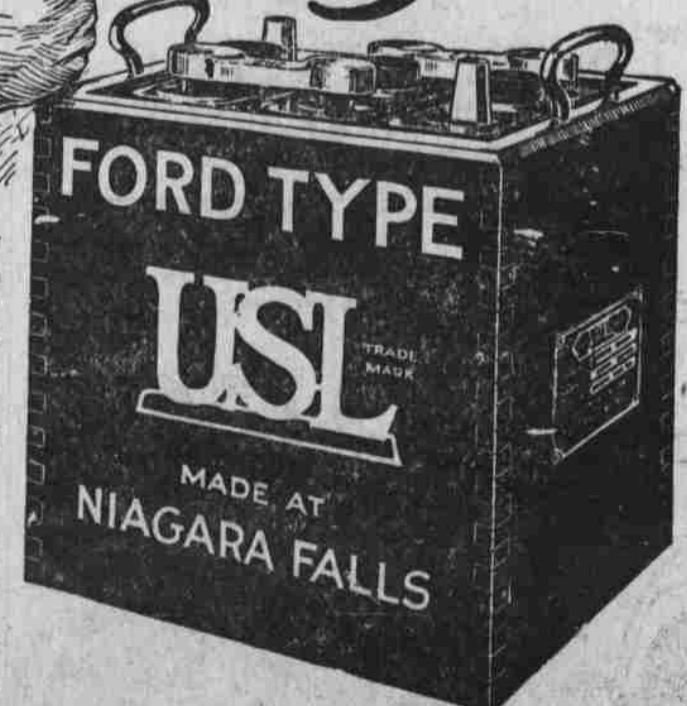
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