

# SANDY VALLEY

An Agricultural, Fruit and Timber District whose Possibilities are almost unlimited

By E. F. Bruns.

As the old year 1910 is fast ebbing away, and the new year 1911 taking its place, it may be of interest to many readers of the Herald to hear of the doings of Sandy and vicinity in the past year, and thus show that Sandy is alive, up-to-date and forging ahead as fast as any rural section of Oregon.

The old pioneers, whom Providence has blessed with seeing another year, to them it must seem like a dream as they reflect back on past events of early pioneer days when they settled here in Sandy amid the gigantic spread of the evergreen forest to build their little log cabin; and then began that almost unsurmountable task of clearing a little patch of ground to raise the necessaries of life—struggling and striving; suffering the hardships

Sandy River Valley lies east of Portland, beginning where the turbulent waters of the Sandy rush to meet the mighty Columbia, extending in a southeasterly direction to the base of grand old Mount Hood, about 50 miles in length by ten miles in width. The soil is noted for the raising of most anything needed to satisfy the wants of life, namely, grain, hay, potatoes, garden truck and fruit; especially apples. Altitude and climatic conditions are most admirably adapted for the raising of the best of apples for color, flavor, quality and quantity. As for cherries, plums, prunes, pears, strawberries and other small fruits, we challenge the world. East of Sandy, towards Mount Hood, known as the Mount Hood District, many commercial orchards are being planted to thousands of apples, pears, cherries and many other varieties of fruit, and soon Sandy will be a serious rival to the famous Hood

per day, which together with prices paid to timber owners, puts thousands of dollars in circulation. The heavy timber that once was an eyesore and a plague in the pioneer days is today better than a bank account. Where the mills have logged off and finished, they are followed by the wood cutters, and even the refuse of the mills is converted into cordwood of which 50000 cords were made here and delivered the past year to the city, thus again putting much money in circulation. Sandy, the center of this fertile section, is fast becoming a big town and trading center. It is the geographical center of the valley, draining the surplus products from the surrounding country, and is connected by a good plank and gravel road with Portland. Boring is the nearest railway station, six miles west where at present all our surplus products are hauled and shipped.

The Mount Hood electric railway

started the past year is Ketch Bros. store, who are doing a splendid business; Dalgren & Davies, pool room and up-to-date confectionery, just opened for business by men of experience in that line. Another new business is Mr. S. Barnes' new barber shop. He is well pleased with the town and business. Another new business that has grown up with the country is the Sandy drug store, R. E. Esson, proprietor. The Harness shop, owned by R. F. Dittert, has customers from miles around. The Sandy Furniture Store, owned by J. W. Wirtz, runs a line of furniture that would do credit to a town twice the size. L. E. Hoffman, butcher, runs several delivery wagons and is a first-class man for the business. Our blacksmiths are P. T. Shelley & Co., and H. Perret, who employ several men each to keep up with the business. Bornstedt & Rueggs' new store is a convenient and busy place. J. E. Pomeroy, Sandy's jeweler, has in a very short time built a first class business and will make Sandy his future business place. Sandy Bakery and Quick Lunch Room is a new business, managed by Mr. and Mrs. Lane. They have built up a business of which we all can feel justly proud.



Ronald Esson



Sandy's Attractive New Schoolhouse



Ed. F. Bruns

of pioneer life, trying hard to build up a home that they could call their own; many times growing weary and disheartened, yet through perseverance and love of home and country they—old sturdy pioneers—stood it through and today we can point with pride to Sandy as progressive and prosperous a county as ever laid out of doors, with magnificent, beautiful homes surrounded by fields prodigal in yield of grain and hay, gardens of flowers spreading their sweet perfume upon the balmy breezes. Gardens of vegetables and the golden pumpkin of the field. Orchards of apples—mellow, rosy-cheeked. Grapes, prunes, cherries, berries fit to set before a king. Herds of cattle, sheep and swine roaming over verdant pastures. With best of roads, rural mail delivery, rural telephone, electric car lines—all the modern conveniences of business and pleasure; in fact surrounded by all the comforts and luxuries of life. Little may we realize the debt we owe to the sturdy old pioneers who hewed the way, and have ever since been a guiding hand to the progress of the country.

River Valley, for the reason that our fruit is just as good, our soil and climate better, and nearer to the markets of the world, with more and better transportation facilities and cheaper land. Not only is our country noted for fields of grain and loaded apple orchards, but east of and about Sandy, extending towards the foothills, stand mighty forests of almost unestimable value, consisting of red and yellow fir, cedar, maple, spruce, alder and hemlock, and various other kinds of wood.

There are many mills here, among which are the Straus Lumber company, capacity 50,000 feet; Firwood Lumber company, capacity 30,000 feet; Jonsrud Bros. Mill, capacity, 30,000 feet; Johanson Lumber company, capacity 30,000; Olsen Lumber company, capacity 30,000 feet; S. P. & H. company, capacity 25,000 feet; Fosberg Bros., capacity 20,000 feet; Davenport Mill company, capacity 40,000 feet. The eight mills have a daily capacity of 225,000 feet, which finds a ready market. Each mill has planers and finishing appliances. These mills have a payroll of \$1000

company is now building a road which will go through the heart of the famous Sandy country. This company is now spending millions harnessing the Sandy river to electrify machinery, produce light for the city of Portland, and run electric cars from Portland to Sandy and Mount Hood. When completed this company will have one of the largest reservoirs and power plants in the world.

The town of Sandy has grown the past few years magically. Just a few years ago it consisted of two stores and an hotel. Today it is the home of 300 people, with three churches—Methodist, Catholic and Lutheran. Sandy has just completed a public school at a cost of \$5000. It also has a private school where both German and English is taught. Two blacksmith shops, a meat market two hotels, two barber shops, three merchandise stores, two shoe makers, a harness shop, a drug store, a pool room and confectionery store, a livery barn, furniture store, lodges of Oddfellows, Rebekahs, Artisans, Grange; also a German Society. Some of the new enterprises

Dr. Lupton, Sandy's doctor, is well liked and is kept very busy with his auto making calls far and near to relieve the suffering. P. R. Meinig, successor to Meinig Bros., will build a big new store, which when complete, will have the largest mercantile business between Portland and Mount Hood. Sandy Hotel, conducted by Mrs. Addie Hart, caters to many of the traveling public daily. Another institution worthy of special notice is the Bank of Clackamas County, to open up January 1, 1911, financed by Mr. Meyers, banker of Portland. Sandy has also two real estate offices. The Mount Hood Land company makes a specialty of fruit land and is doing much to bring this country into the public eye. It is ably managed by H. S. Eddy, an energetic, progressive up-to-date business man. The Sandy Land company owns the town site of Sandy, of which W. A. Proctor, Sandy's well-to-do sawmill man is president; John Straus, a wealthy business man, is vice-president; Frank Beers, one of our most successful farmers, owner of one of the finest farms in this country, is