

DAIRYING NOW A LEADING INDUSTRY IN THE RICH POWELL BUTTE COUNTRY

Fine Yield of Clover and Alfalfa Obtained, and Most of it Will Be Fed On the Farm Where Raised— Grain On Non-Irrigable Land Excellent— Forty Acres Enough for One Family.

(Staff Correspondence)

POWELL BUTTE, Oct. 20—Central Oregon is such a young agricultural country that it might be said that it is still wearing its "long dresses." The railroads opened it up just a little over two years ago, and the development during these two years has been very rapid. Of course, there was some farming done before the railroads came, but it was on a limited scale for there was a very limited market for the produce. Livestock were raised mostly, something that could be made to transport themselves to the distant markets.

In the irrigated territory of Crook county there is no district that has come to the front as fast as Powell Butte. Here there are thousands of acres in cultivation that are producing abundant crops of hay, grain, potatoes and other crops. Throughout a large area every acre is in cultivation—a rather rare sight in this country where thousands of acres have been gobbled up by the speculators and held undeveloped.

Hay and grain are this year the best crops, with hay leading. Both clover and alfalfa have produced well and as the acreage devoted to these grasses is large there is a tremendous tonnage on hand.

The farming district stretches nearly entirely around the buttes, the dry district being at the foot of the buttes and the irrigated section in the valley.

Old "River Bed" Very Fertile.

In what is known as the old "river bed" there is each year raised excellent crops of alfalfa. To the south of the buttes lives E. F. Archer who has 49 acres in this river bed. Mr. Archer has been here three years and is devoting his attention mainly to dairying. He has a dozen cows and hauls to the Redmond Creamery the cream which they produce. He feeds nearly all his hay on his own place and says that in this way he makes it bring him at least \$15 a ton.

Adjoining Mr. Archer's place Walter Foster has 160 acres, 110 of which lie in the river bed. He has 70 acres of this in alfalfa. Mr. Foster has three brood mares and is raising some fine colts. He says that he may try sheep and hogs. Mr. Foster raised a few potatoes this year but the yield was not good. Mr. and Mrs. Foster have a beautiful bungalow residence completed last year.

Up on the south side of the butte J. P. Bowman has a 320-acre homestead. It is farmed on the dry plan. He raised some hay and potatoes this year, his potatoes being about the average.

Adjoining the Bowman claim is the homestead of J. D. Davidson which was proved up on this summer. Mr. Davidson has planted an orchard and expects to raise some fruit later on. He has only a small acreage cleared as yet. In the young orchard he raised this year some potatoes. Mr. Davidson's house is quite a landmark in the neighborhood. Located on the side of the butte and painted white, it is visible for a long distance.

Next to the Davidson place is the dry ranch of A. D. Morrill. Mr. Morrill has been in here about seven years and is getting his ranch in good condition. He has grown excellent grain and has potatoes that are turning out about the average for this year. They are of the usual excellent quality.

N. B. Beach, who came here in 1904, has a homestead of 160 acres which he has proved up on. Last year he raised 2100 bushels of grain but did not have in much this season.

In this community is the Butte Valley school which is being taught this year by Miss Margaret Kimmell. The enrollment is 18. The district had only six months of school in 1912 but this year will have nine. It has an excellent building.

Big Family on 40 Acres.

On a 40 that lies mostly in the river bed C. L. Frost is accomplishing a great deal by specializing in dairying. He has a herd of Jerseys, 10 cows and 2 heifers. He sells his butter in Redmond and gets an average of 37 1/2 cents a pound the year round. It is known as the "Blue Ribbon Butter" and always commands a better price, he says, than any other ranch butter marketed in that town. For the past four years the 40 acres has more than made a living for a family of 10 persons. The land is all seeded to alfalfa and Mr. Frost has only the best grade of cows. An instance of the qualities of his herd is shown by one of his heifers which became a good milk and money bringer when she was only 17 months old. The Frost garden is one of the finest in this district. In it this summer grew squashes, onions, cabbage, carrots, rutabagas, string beans, parsnips, celery, asparagus, berries and other products. Mr. Frost stated that his best market is Bend where he gets higher prices than anywhere else. He has a young orchard set out.

A near neighbor of Mr. Frost is H. R. Wolcott, who has 80 acres. He had 20 acres in oats this year and has 13 seeded to alfalfa. He has 60 acres in cultivation in all. His oats

ran over 30 bushels to the acre. Among the tender truck grown this year were some excellent melons. Mr. Wolcott sells most of his products in Bend because of the higher prices obtained there.

Raises Turkeys and Chickens.

A short distance from the Powell Butte postoffice is the ranch of J. E. Warner, and here is found a big flock of turkeys. Mrs. Warner has 125 left from the coyotes. These animals have been very bold and had this summer and their depredations have been severe on the poultry raisers. Mrs. Warner had eight turkey hens this spring from which she raised her flock. She says the climate for these fowls is ideal but the boldness of the coyotes is a serious handicap. In addition to her turkeys, Mrs. Warner has 125 Plymouth Rock chickens. She has just imported a pair of thoroughbreds from Portland and will improve her already excellent flock. The Warners came here last December from Idaho and are greatly pleased with the country. They have an 80-acre irrigated tract.

Dairying Gains in Favor.

Allen Landfare, whose hogs are mentioned elsewhere, is going into the dairy industry also. He now has 10 milk cows, with a number of calves that are of good grade. He has two high grade bulls and so is prepared to raise more first class milkers. He sells his cream to the co-operative creamery at Redmond.

George Truesdale has 40 acres which he is making bring him a good return. He has it seeded to alfalfa and clover and with a herd of dairy cows is converting the hay raised into cash by way of the creamery route. He has five cows, Holsteins and Jerseys. One of his Jerseys is the mother of twin calves which are as fine young stock as are to be found anywhere.

George Brazee is just starting into dairying. His herd consists of about 20 milkers of the Durham breed. He has an abundance of fine clover and alfalfa hay to feed them this winter, and the skim milk which they will produce will make Mr. Brazee's hogs thrive during the cold months that are coming. Mr. Brazee is going to help out in the beef difficulty as he recently got a herd of 20 feeders from the Black Butte Company's ranch.

N. P. Alley has 40 acres lying east of Mr. Brazee's land and he is mak-

ing money on it. He has a herd of 15 cattle, which include four milk cows. He has his land seeded to alfalfa and clover and this year harvested a large crop of hay. Mrs. Alley raised a flock of turkeys this year which did well but for the pesky coyotes. She has 60 or 70 left that will no doubt grace as many Thanksgiving and Christmas tables this winter.

One of the largest herds of beef cattle in this district is that on the ranch of Alvin Riggs. He has about 60 that will be put in prime market condition on clover and alfalfa hay. He has 40 acres in alfalfa and also raises grain on 160 acres of dry land.

Another way of using the hay on the place and keeping the land in a highly fertile state has been found by Earl Saunders. In addition to his drove of about 100 hogs, Mr. Saunders has a band of sheep that he is feeding, and the alfalfa and clover puts them in tiptop condition to go to market.

Among those who are engaged in dairying, I was told, are J. F. Rice, G. W. Mustard and Mr. Skeen, each of whom is building up a good herd of cream producers. Since the creamery at Redmond was reorganized and put on a co-operative basis, most of the ranchers throughout this territory are taking their cream there. It is the nearest market they have for this product and they say that the price paid is fairly good.

Fine Flock of Chickens.

A newcomer to this neck of the woods is E. L. Iverson, who has 80 acres. He has built a beautiful home and is getting his place in first class shape. This year he tried his hand at the poultry business and his flock of 150 Buff Orpingtons is a beautiful sight. They are thoroughbred stock. He too has been visited by the poultryman's common enemy, the coyote. Mr. Iverson's flock is not old enough yet for him to begin to realize on it, but he expects to obtain profitable results from his experiment. He has an excellent chicken house having all the requisites of light, air, room and cleanliness.

Another poultryman is J. J. Chapman, who has White Orpingtons. His place I did not have the pleasure of visiting.

The raising of horses does not have a very prominent place in Powell Butte ranching history at present. However, what are raised rank high. Especially is this true of those on the A. H. Rhode place. Mr. Rhode has a fine young mare that would doubtless have taken a blue ribbon had she been exhibited this year at the county fair.

Two Pests Bother Farmer.

While the farmers here are free from any very destructive pests like the grasshopper of the Middle Western states and the boll weevil of the cotton growing states, he is bothered

by a few others. However, he has this to be thankful for: the pests he has to contend with are minor and almost a nonentity as compared with the crop destroyers of the farmers beyond the Rockies. The coyotes and the jackrabbits head the list of enemies of the rancher. This year, from all reports, they have been worse than ever. Both seem to have thrived and they have done a lot of damage. The rabbits are being exterminated to some extent by drives, and there will probably be a lot of these "parties" this winter to furnish amusement and at the same time get rid of the varmints. The coyotes are bold but shy; they will not accommodate by getting into the traps set for them, and they are hard to dispatch with a gun or rifle.

Thoroughbred Stock Raised.

One of the things that impresses itself upon the mind of the visitor through this garden spot of Crook county is that the farmers are raising high grade stock. In nearly all cases their cows, their hogs, their horses, their poultry, are thoroughbreds. If they are not, the common remark is heard, "I am going to sell off all my stock and get nothing but thoroughbreds next year." They have learned, somehow, somewhere, that in the long run this is what pays, and only what pays.

Another thing is the prevalent idea in the irrigated belt that they can do better with a small acreage intensively cultivated than with a large acreage improperly cared for. The 40-acre farmer, in nearly all instances, is making more money proportionately than the 80-acre farmer. One man cannot handle a greater acreage than 40 by himself, and to get good help is a very difficult undertaking.

Bend is Best Market.

Everywhere I went the farmers said that they got the best prices for their produce of all kinds at Bend. That town is farther away for most of them than is Redmond, but the added returns due to the higher prices justify the longer haul, they say. For instance, oats are selling at \$28 a ton in Bend and \$21 a ton in Redmond; dressed pork at 10 1/2 cents in Bend and 9 1/2 cents in Redmond. What the people here want

is a better road to Bend. They are unanimous that there is no worse public highway in the county than the Powell Butte-Bend road.

Grain Crop is Good.

The raising of grain in the Powell Butte country is coming to be mostly on the non-irrigated land. There are a few farmers yet who are raising wheat and oats and barley on their irrigated lands, but they have begun to realize that, while a profitable crop, grain on ditch land is not the

best money bringer. My trip did not include many of the dry farms hereabouts, but the general report from them was of good crops this year. This land is farmed on the every-other-year plan. In order to conserve the moisture it is summer fallowed one year and the next produces a good crop. From 20 to 40 bushels of wheat, oats and barley are obtained this way and about 40 sacks of potatoes to the acre.

Building Material LUMBER, SHINGLES



The Miller Lumber Company Bend, Oregon.

FRUIT TREES

Our nursery is located on Powell Butte, fourteen miles east of Bend. Our trees are the kind we recommend after over thirty years experience in the fruit business in this neighborhood. Our prices and treatment will please you. Catalog free on request. Come and see our orchards and nursery. Office address, Prineville, Ore. **LAFOLLETTE NURSERY CO.**

We Deliver the Goods

BUS AND DRAY LINE LIGHT AND HEAVY LIVERY.

Hay, Barley, Oats, Wheat and Bran at lowest prices. The Largest Barn in Central Oregon.

WENANDY LIVERY CO.

Bend, Oregon.

J. H. WENANDY

LON L. FOX

P. B. JOHNSON'S

MILLCAN, OREGON

Is the place to buy the RIGHT KIND of GROCERIES at the RIGHT KIND of prices

Near 28 Mile Post



Best-Hated of Farm Tasks

IN the spreaderless farm the thought of the great heaps of manure piling up constantly in barn yards, stables, and stalls, is a gloomy one. Those piles mean much disagreeable and hard work. It must all be loaded on high wagons. It must be raked off in piles in the fields. Then every forkful must be shaken apart and spread.

Compare that old-fashioned method with the I H C spreader way. You pitch the manure into the spreader box, only waist high, drive out and—the machine does all the rest. And it spreads evenly and far less wastefully.

I H C Manure Spreaders

are farm necessities. The man who uses one will get the price of it back in increased crops before its newness has worn off.

Every detail and feature counts. They do best work always and stand every strain for years. They are made in all styles and sizes, for small farms and large, low and high machines, frames of braced and trussed steel. Uphill or down, or on the level, the apron drive assures even spreading, and the covering of corners is assured by rear axle differentials. In all styles the rear axle is placed so that it carries near three-fourths of the load. This, with the wide-rimmed wheels with Z-shaped lugs, makes for plenty of tractive power. Winding of the beater is prevented by large diameter and the beater teeth are long, strong and chisel pointed.

The I H C spreader lines will interest you. See them at the local dealer's. Get catalogues from him, or write us.

International Harvester Company of America (Incorporated)

Portland

Ore.

Electric Light for Small Residences

OUR Electric Light Service is just as available to the one or two room house or tent house as it is to the larger residence. You can use two lamps at \$1.00 per month flat rate. Considering the service, this is cheaper and better than any other form of lighting. **LET US PROVE IT TO YOU.**

Bend Water Light & Power Co.