

# Junction City Bulletin.

## JUNCTION CITY, OREGON.

### A Brief Sketch of the Town as It Is Today—Its Business Men and the Resources of the Surrounding Country.

#### One of the Fairest Towns in the Far Famed Willamette Valley.

There is a large scope of country, situate in the Willamette Valley, extending from Eugene, the county seat of Lane county, north for a distance of 30 miles, and lying on both sides of the Willamette River, which has not suffered the blight of "yellow journal" advertising. But now that immigration is pouring into Oregon from every point of the compass, it is suggested that the advantages of this "garden spot" be presented, in a fair way, to the home seekers; also, that an adequate reason should be assigned for its partial neglect up to this time.

In explanation, it is pointed out that county seats and main trading centers of the Valley have had full swing in controlling the location of immigration, or, at least, have exercised an organized and well concentrated effort in that direction, and in which they have succeeded to a considerable extent. While this effort on their part shows a commendable spirit of enterprise, it has brought about a condition that, when fairly explained to intending buyers, may be of substantial benefit to them.

The items of most importance to the settler is the quality of the land, next the price per acre, and finally the environment. At present, the prices at which land is held near the big towns are largely constructive, that is, in a comparative way. As to quality, they are no better than lands more distant; and as to environment, with equal facilities, each district is master of its own destiny. It may be said in this connection, in regard to transportation for this part of the Valley, that the Southern Pacific Company operates its system with fixed prices for traffic, thus affording the farmer who has a carload for shipment equal benefits with the city dealer.

The Willamette River is navigable with from 100 to 200 ton steamboats for about seven months of the year, and, coming, as it does, when the bulk of the farmers' product is being shipped to market, wields a beneficial influence upon transportation rates of large shipments. With these facts in view, it is readily determined that there is no advantage to be derived by the homeseeker in massing with the congested trade centers, where prices of land are so greatly inflated.

Now that the situation is made plain, we can, with a good degree of confidence, proceed to outline some of the advantages afforded by the territory under consideration. This scope is comprised of about 50,000 acres of land, drained by the Willamette River and its tributaries. It can be truthfully said that this land, for productive qualities, is nowhere excelled on the Pacific coast, and also that the variety of products to which it is adapted are almost without limit. From the river bottoms is harvested the best quality of hops known in brewers' supplies, and the average quantity per acre is seldom equaled and never excelled in hop culture. Persons engaged in gardening and truck patch culture on these lands are rewarded with yields that are truly marvelous, and which no doubt, if mentioned to one not initiated would be discredited to some extent. The prairie lands of this section, for cereal production, in every instance where the husbandman applies his labor in an intelligent way, gratifies all reasonable demands.

The culture of fruit on this domain is growing in favor very rapidly of late. The scientific methods being disseminated by the Oregon Agricultural College for the elimination of fruit pests is doing away in a marked degree with danger from that source, and as the surplus increases improved methods of packing for shipment are being adopted. Organized effort to regulate the amount shipped has, to some extent, saved gluts in the market, which have heretofore been very disastrous, and the betterment of facilities for shipping to the Eastern markets all combine to encourage the industry and make it safe and profitable.

Passing from this beautiful valley, with its prosperous and happy homes, our attention is directed to the Cascade Mountains, which bound the Willamette Valley on the east. In these mountains, from this point of view, can be seen the snow-capped summit of the majestic old mountain which bears the name of our revered statesman, Jefferson; also, farther to the south, in the same

and hold their own with any other meats in the market.

This brings us to the main object of this illustrated descriptive supplement, which is to enlist, as far as possible, the attention of people whose intention is to settle in the Willamette Valley; and, in this connection, it is made known that the "Bulletin" has no object in view other than to inform incoming strangers of the immense opportunities that await them here, and invite them to join us, in a co-operative way, to develop the wonderful resources that are so abundantly distributed in this Valley. Men and women of moral and forceful character are wanted. With plenty of these, the conditions are complete for reaching the highest possible plane of educational, religious and industrial life. We promise all such a hearty welcome, and pledge the good offices of our noble pioneers in making their homes in Oregon the most pleasant part of their journey through life.

ists. It is a solid institution. There are three large grain elevators here, two newspapers, waterworks, a good steam fire engine. Also a full roller process flour mill, which has gained an enviable reputation for the excellence of its flour both at home and abroad. This mill pays the highest market price for its wheat, and pays cash. It is also a sound financial institution.

There is more grain and other produce, including live stock, shipped from this point than from any other place in the Willamette Valley.

#### LANE COUNTY.

Lane county is one of the largest, as it is one of the most productive agricultural counties of Oregon. It extends from the Pacific ocean on the west to the summit of the Cascade Mountains on the east, a distance of about 100 miles, and from Douglas county on the south to Linn and Benton counties on the north, an average width of about 50 miles,



MAYOR J. B. MILLER.

center of this district. Nearly every acre of this tract is either fine farming or good pasture land, and almost every foot of it is under fence and partitioned into farms, varying in size from 160 to 1,200 acres. Here vast quantities of wheat, oats, barley and hay are annually harvested, while thousands of bushels of luscious apples, pears, plums, cherries and prunes are gathered from the luxuriant orchards that abound in this region.

The price of land in this portion of the valley varies from five to fifty dollars per acre, according to location, improvements and other advantages, such as convenience of water, wood and market, while there is an almost unlimited supply of timber on or near the river, also on the banks of smaller streams, sufficient to supply the demands of a generation, and, when that fails, the mountains and hills hold an inexhaustible store easy of access and unfailing in quantity. On many of the ranches stock water is convenient, but there are some where the liquid is supplied by wells pumped by windmills. Driven wells are extensively used because such an one can be made in an hour's time, at nearly any point in the district, which will afford water sufficient for 100 head of cattle. Water is found at a depth of from 14 to 20 feet almost anywhere in the Valley.

In respect to the soil and productions of Lane county, the opportunities for farming, stock raising, hop growing, lumbering and manufacturing are great. Ten times the present population would not settle the county as thickly as many parts along the Atlantic seaboard and in the Mississippi Valley, where the natural resources and advantages are not so great as they are in Oregon. The surface of the country is diversified, having much foothill land, which is by far the best for fruit and grazing farms; but besides there are many thousands of acres of fine level prairie and bottom lands, the very best grain and meadow lands in the State. The soil is found to be very productive. The extensive river bottoms contain the largest hop yards in Oregon, but wheat is the chief staple product. Oats, rye, barley and all kinds of vegetables grow to perfection, while the fruits produced are unexcelled. Timothy, clover in all its varieties, and all species of tame grasses as well, grow to profusion, while wool, mutton, pork, beef and horses are extensively raised. But little attention is paid to the raising of corn. Potatoes, Irish and sweet, are both cultivated, the former with fabulous yields of best quality.

In regard to the pomology of Lane county, it may be safely asserted that it excels as a fruit country; indeed, no finer of the kinds raised here are produced in any quarter of the globe. Fruit trees will grow from six to eight feet during the first year and bear the second, third and fourth years, according to variety. Apples, pears, plums and cherries grow in such abundance that trees have invariably to be propped up to prevent them from breaking under the weight of the fruit. The crops have never failed in this section, though, naturally, the quantity varies in different years. The fruits named all attain an unusual size, with excellent flavor and color. Finer plums, cherries and prunes are not grown in France.

The average temperature for Lane county is, for spring, 52 degs.; for summer, 67 degs.; for autumn, 63 degs., and for winter, 38 degs.; showing a mean deviation of only 28 degrees during the entire year. Well may the residents of Oregon be proud of the prairies of the Willamette; proud of its hills; its copses of oak; its groves of fir and pine, hemlock and spruce; its unequalled climate; its eternal snow clad mountain chains; its vast resources and its illimitable grandeur.



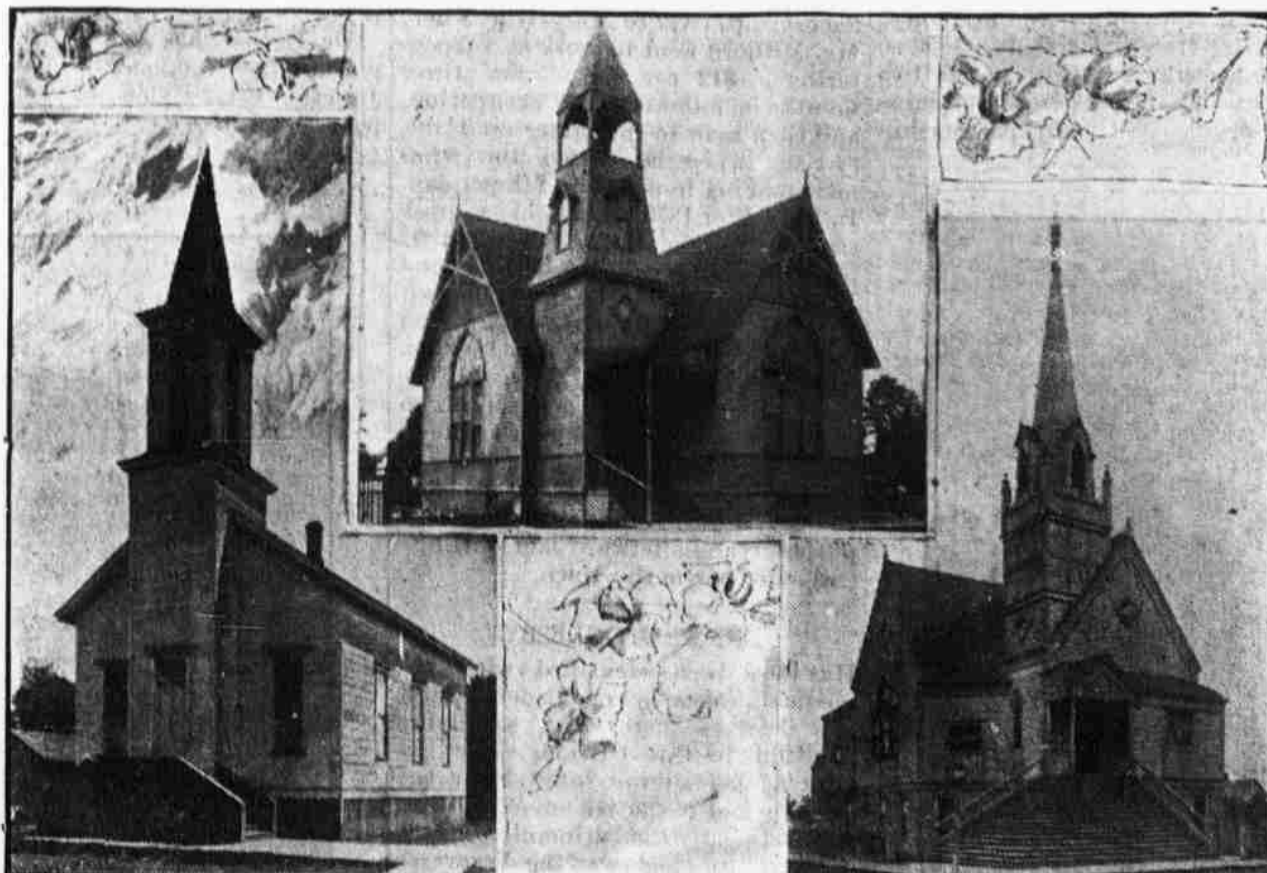
JUNCTION CITY HOTEL BUILDING—COST \$26,000.

#### JUNCTION CITY.

Junction City, Oregon, is situated in the northern part of Lane county, 110 miles south of Portland, 57 miles south of Salem, the capital of the State, and 14 miles north of Eugene, the county seat. It is on the main line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and has a population of about 1,000 inhabitants. It is one of the most prosperous and enterprising cities in the Willamette Valley. The city is platted on either side of the Southern Pacific tracks, and is in the center of the widest portion of the Willamette Valley. All kinds of mercantile interests, professions and trades are here represented. Junction City has three churches, and a graded school building that cost over \$6,000. The hotel block was built by a stock company of citizens, and cost over \$28,000. Here is also to be found one of the finest opera houses between San Francisco and Portland. We have one bank, the Farmers & Merchants', owned by home capital-

comprising as a whole about 7,000 square miles. Of this vast territory about one-third or one-fourth is valley land, and embraces all the Upper Willamette Valley, which is in every sense the largest body of good agricultural land, and the most beautiful and attractive portion of Oregon, the soil being very rich, producing abundant crops of grain and grass. The remaining two-thirds or three-fourths are hilly and mountainous, the rolling foot hills contiguous to the valley being either open prairie lands, or ground covered partially with timber and brush, but affording excellent natural pasture and protection to animals. The mountain sides are densely wooded. The whole of that part of the county lying west of the river and south of the Benton county line, and bounded on the west by the classic hills of the far-famed and euphoniously named romantic stream yeletpi Long Tom, and on the south by a line of low hills, lies an area of not less than 300 square miles. Junction City is situated in the very

range, can be seen the "Three Sisters," and "Diamond Peak." While not so lofty as Mt. Jefferson, they maintain the dignity of wearing the year round their hoods of white. The west side of the Valley is bounded by the Coast Range, and while they lack the elevation of the Cascades, they have compensating advantages. The summit of this range furnishes a point of view from which, in the long distance, can be seen the Pacific ocean. This is a sight greatly enjoyed by persons who here find their first opportunity to gaze on old ocean. Approaching these grand old mountains, we are confronted with a long stretch of low hills which gradually increase in altitude until they lose their identity by merging with the mountain proper. These foothills are clothed with a luxuriant growth of nutritious grasses, which serve as abundant food for thousands of head of stock. Bees matured on these hills are taken direct from the range and sold for use in the best hotels and restaurants in the country.



C. P. CHURCH.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

METHODIST CHURCH.