

Productive Rogue River Valley and Jackson County, Oregon

(Continued from Page 2.)

cañon and surroundings, being west of the Cascades, a low altitude, the Valley has the same mild climate found along the Coast, from Puget Sound to Southern California, due to the influence of the warm Japan ocean currents. The winter months are mild, with little snow, which usually melts rapidly. The 28 inches of rain comes from October to April, with occasional showers during the summer.

There is an average of 270 days of sunshine and there is always an evening breeze. The humidity is very low. The hottest days in summer the humidity is between 15 and 20. The nights are cool. The average minimum temperature during the winter is just below freezing or 31 degrees.

Damaging winds are not experienced.

Water Resources.

Water available for irrigation and power is one of Jackson County's valuable resources. Rogue River and its tributaries drain the entire area, and according to the State Engineer, has 300,000 horsepower, with a total annual run-off of 3,200,000 acre-feet of water, so Jackson County has an abundance of water for all purposes. The large planned irrigation projects started are yet uncompleted.

It is estimated that 2000 acres of land is irrigated by means of electric pumping and alfalfa fields of 100 or more acres are irrigated. The cost of pumping varies, according to the lift and size of plant. The cost to raise one acre-foot 100 feet by electricity is \$2.80 per year, and the cost of the plant, \$5 to \$10 per acre.

Water Power Development.

One of the large prospective uses for electric power is for electric roads. The largest developed power plant is at Prospect, where 7000 horsepower is generated. This is capable of expansion to 40,000. One hundred and twenty-five families in the Valley cook with electricity, 80 per cent of the total county population use electricity for lighting, as the service is extended into all rural districts.

Timber Resources.

Two-thirds of the acreage of Jackson County is classified as timber land, 850,000 acres is privately owned, 427,000 acres in natural forests. The estimate of merchantable timber has a total of 23,000,000,000 feet and contains some of the largest standing bodies of sugar pine found in the United States. Comparatively little use has been made of the timber resources up to this time, as only a few small mills have operated.

Minerals.

The mineral resources of Jackson County are first among all the counties of the state, according to special investigators of the Oregon Bureau of Mines and Geology. The placer gold fields of Southern Oregon have yielded \$150,000,000 since their discovery.

Large coal deposits are now being thoroughly tested. These veins range from 8 to 12 feet in thickness.

Building stones offer an inviting field to the developer, which include granite, sandstone and marble from pure white to black, with grain rivaling Vermont quarries.

The great need toward the development is a road to the coast, only 100 miles, where it could be loaded upon transports with wide market possibilities.

Special opportunities might be summarized and emphasized as: Lumber mills and box factories, alfalfa meal mills, additional fruit and by-product plants, creameries and beet sugar factories.

Good Roads.

September, 1913, Jackson County voted \$500,000 for the construction of a modern, first-class, hard-surfaced highway more than 50 miles in length, through the Rogue River Valley. A unit of the Pacific Highway from British Columbia into Mexico—Jackson County was the first county in the state to improve this unit of the Highway—a leader in the agitation of good roads in Oregon. We have 17 miles of the Highway completed and 13 miles over the Siskiyou Mountains graded and will be hard-surfaced early this summer.

For the Tourist.

Jackson County offers many varieties of mineral springs, mountain streams with unrivaled fishing, wildernesses with deer, bear and cougar, historic Table Rock, Mill Creek Falls and Crater Lake, one of the scenic wonders of the world, with Medford the gateway, and just across the line in Josephine County are the Marble Caves, promising when fully explored, to equal the caves of Kentucky.

Rogue River offers royal sport in fly fishing for steelhead (rainbow) trout, weighing from 3 to 10 pounds.

Medford.

Medford, with an estimated population of 11,000, is located in the center of the Valley and the most important financial, trade and shipping point, and is now a jobbing city. No city the size of Medford has a greater length of first-class paved streets, having a total of 22 miles, 29 miles of sewers, 28 miles of water mains, 28 miles of cement walks, and a 30-mile gravity water system, costing

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A Land of Plenty.

If one were ever justified in lauding the possibilities of any land, he is certainly justified in giving this beautiful Valley and its throbbing wide-awake heart, the progressive city of Medford, a full measure of praise. The object of this article is to tell the people from outside, that they may know and enjoy, if they will, this garden spot of the West. Those who live there know of no other place so attractive—none with such possibilities. The writer has endeavored rather to underestimate than to exaggerate, knowing that so much can be said in favor of this favored Valley, that even the plain, unvarnished truth would seem to some as the limit of exaggeration.

Wool Clip in Washington in First-Class Condition

THE wool clip in Washington this year is coming from the sheep in first-class condition. The growers in most cases are selling early and shearing is anywhere from 15 to 30 days ahead of time. Coarse wools seem to be selling very freely at what is considered the market price.

The Hibbard-Stewart Company, of Seattle, Wash., purchased the Coffin clip of wool at North Yakima and their various camps on a basis of 22 cents to 23 cents per pound, according to the cleanliness. This clip consisted of about 250,000 pounds of wool. The same firm also bought the Satus Stock Company's wool, at Toppenish. The good coarse wools from eastern points have been mostly cleaned up, but Mr. Hibbard, of the above mentioned firm, today stated that they were active in purchasing Puget Sound valley wool and also any good, clean clips of wool from coarse wool sheep.

As to the value of wool in the near future, it will be entirely determined as to whether the war in Europe will be prolonged or not. But the advice from people who know is to the effect that it is better to shear early and sell early this year.

Refused to Leave.

Lawyer—You say you told the servant to get out of the house the minute you found it was on fire, and she refused to go?

Mrs. Burns—Yes, she said she must have a month's notice before she'd leave.

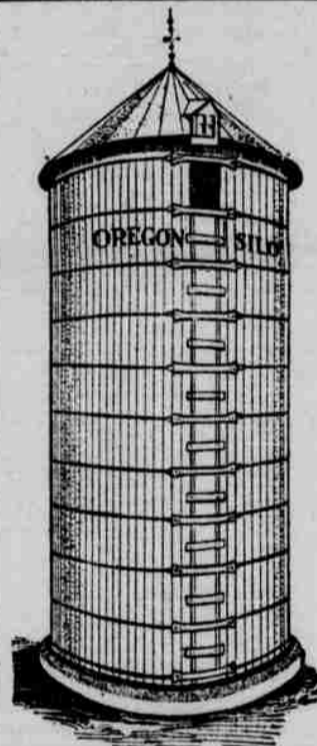
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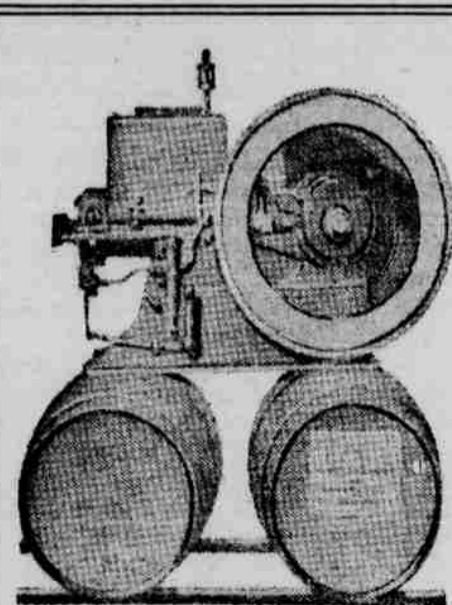
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