



Peaches and Prosperity



ORCHARD SCENE NEAR ASHLAND



VIEW OF ASHLAND CREEK

Courtesy Oregon Journal.

Ashland and Vicinity Make Substantial Progress During the Year in Growth and Development.

Ashland and vicinity have made substantial progress during the year 1912. No phenomenal growth has been witnessed, but improvements have been aligned upon conservative basis.

For example, dry farming methods are coming into vogue, and these afford a wide field for the exploitation of Jackson county's abundant resources.

Recently been investigating conditions from personal observation in southern Oregon. "How to get more people to Oregon is the problem upon which many keen and intelligent men are working."

Took First Prize Acting upon this suggestion, in September of this year, at the southern Oregon district fair at Ashland, there was an exhibit consisting of over 200 varieties of dry land products.

played at the recent Pacific Northwest Land Products show held in November. The result was that the Ashland district won a cash prize of \$250, two silver cups—one from the Great Northern railroad and another from the Southern Pacific railroad—a bronze statuette from the Portland Commercial club, besides other minor awards.

Along building lines, the year has been comparatively quiet, but it has witnessed the completion and occupancy of a number of public edifices, notably the new high school building, erected at a cost of \$75,000.

ranks among the very best on the Pacific coast.

Splendid Library

A new Carnegie Library occupies a commanding site. In addition to private donations, this library has the benefit of a small tax levy included in the annual municipal budget.

The Ashland Normal and Business College was started early this fall. It is the branch of a prominent institution located at Oakland, California, and will ultimately incorporate polytechnic features in the various courses open to students.

The Ashland Fruit and Produce Association occupies new and commodious quarters. The building is of reinforced concrete, ample in proportions, and most conveniently located on Southern Pacific trackage.

The Ashland Preserving company has extended its scope of influence by introducing the manufacture of sprays and other chemicals on a

large scale, thus not only supplying the local markets, but also shipping these products elsewhere. A practical chemist is at the head of this department, and a well-appointed laboratory connected with the institution is equipped with every requisite.

New Armory

The new Armory, which is to be headquarters of First Company, Coast Artillery Corps Reserves, O. N. G., is being built under state, county and municipal auspices, and will cost \$36,000. Auditorium and opera house privileges will be afforded by this model structure, regarding which much is to be expected both from architectural embellishment as well as roomy and convenient accommodations.

Dry farming pursuits have given manufacturers an impetus, as is witnessed by the establishment of a broom factory which will utilize the broom corn raised on the several dry farming tracts. Sugar beets are also being experimented with and cultivators of the same are sanguine that a beet sugar factory might ultimately

be established in our midst.

New literature is being provided under the auspices of the Commercial club, various phases of which will differ from reading matter heretofore circulated. It is planned to exploit Ashland as a home and resort town and educational center; to dwell upon its healthfulness, scenic beauties and other attractions—in fact, to exploit our natural advantages to the utmost.

City Improvements

Incident to the foregoing specific improvements, thousands of dollars have been expended on the extension and betterment of municipal utilities, notably water, light and sewer. Parks continue to be beautified, and other phases of the city's adornment are not overlooked. Never before have the streets of Ashland been so well lighted as under the present municipal ownership system.

By virtue of its position as a division terminal, railway improvements have been in order to a considerable extent throughout the Ashland yards during the past year, and even one in pessimistic mood cannot help but read the signs of the times to the effect that a fine new passenger depot, at the hands of the Southern Pacific, will be one of Ashland's prominent assets in the not far distant future. The Western Union repeating station here has also been overhauled and equipped with all the latest devices known to telegraphy.

In territory contiguous to Ash-

land, various enterprises are either actually under way or are being projected. The government is constructing a highway which will eventually reach the summit of Mt. Ashland. An initial appropriation of \$6,000 was available for this purpose sometime since, and a portion of this road is already completed. Steps are being taken to enlist the aid of county and precinct authorities in behalf of better roads from territory adjacent to Ashland to points in Klamath county. Various irrigation projects on an extensive scale are also being projected, the benefits of which will apply particularly to large tracts across Bear creek. In the vicinity of Tolman Springs, a hotel and sanitarium on a large scale are early planned for.

The government supports an entomological station at Ashland, connected with which a chief and three assistants are investigating the ravages of insect pests in the forests. This work supplements fruit inspection at the hands of the county, and by these dual methods not only orchards, but standing timber within a radius of many miles from the city limits is receiving due attention. A federal building is also contemplated, and a bill providing for the erection of such a structure in this city is pending before congress.

Notable improvements are planned on the chautauqua grounds, chief among which is to be a new auditorium, a structure greatly needed in order to meet the demands of the rapidly increasing assembly patron-

Bronze Statuette Commercial Club's Agricultural Gift

Ashland Proud Possessor of Handsome and Unique Prize

"The Plowman," an Artistic and Beautiful Work of the Sculptor Which the Portland Commercial Club Has Just Sent to Ashland Commercial Club; The Statuette Was Awarded for the Best Agricultural Display at the Land Products Show Recently Held



So many silver cups have been awarded since competitive, land and other shows first were held that to get away from the beaten path the Portland Commercial club instead of a cup or medal offered an special premium at the recent Pacific Northwest Land Products show held on the east side, a statuette.

Grande Commercial club as a trophy from the Portland organization because of the remarkably progressive spirit of the younger club. The La Grande club has just completed a building for its home, and last week gave a house warming, at which Manager C. C. Chairman of the promotion committee of the Portland Commercial club, was one of the speakers.

Ashland High School, One of the Finest in the Northwest

