

**CAMAS DITCH RECLAIMS
LARGE FERTILE AREA**

For almost half a century the residents of the Camas Prairie district of Klickitat county, Wash., most of them of German birth, have been raising stock and replenishing their hay meadows from the wild grass meadows that grow luxuriantly on the six thousand acre bottom of what has long been known as Conboy Lake. They came into the country in the early days and homesteaded the land built their homes on the gentle slopes among the forests at the edge of the fertile basin. On every side is seen their homes, small comfortable dwellings, and adjoining each one is a large barn—in most instances two or three. Indeed it is a section of big barns with enormous hay mows; for to the peculiar adaptability of the region to stockraising and successful dairying do the pioneer settlers owe their prosperity.

The formation of the Camas Prairie region gives an interesting basis of study to the geologist or soil expert. It is almost a perfectly flat, eight miles in length and about three miles wide at the middle. For ages four streams, because of the level condition of the basin, have been pouring their waters upon it, in a decisional channel but spreading them over the whole area. From the south, the Chapman creek flows, from the east range the Holmes, and from the north, the Bird and Frazer creeks enter, the latter fed by glacial springs and the snows of Mount Adams. The water from these streams have overspread the land for about ten out of twelve months in the year. The time of harvesting the rich growth of wild hay has naturally been short.

The basin is entirely surrounded by forest covered hills. A wide expanse of fir forests stretch away to the east and south, while on the north and west the ranges are covered with fir and pine. It is a beautiful country, especially in the fall of the year with the dark green of the trees on every hand and the snow capped peak of Mt. Adams at the north overlooking all.

For a number of years the progressive residents of the region have realized that the value of the region could be greatly enhanced and its products increased many fold by draining the excessive waters of the lake. A study of the topography of the region showed that this could be easily done. However, the execution of the work was retarded by a few of the residents, who feared that the cost of constructing drainage ditches would be too heavy for them. The matter was taken into the courts and only this year was the litigation brought to an end. Immediately on securing a favorable decision in the courts, the bids for the work of digging the drainage ditches were advertised and the contract was let this summer. Work was begun on the drainage canal August 1 by Richardson & Son, Tacoma contractors, who will finish the task this fall. Fifteen miles and a half of main and lateral ditches will be dug. The main ditch will be five and a half miles in length, with the average top width of twenty-eight feet. The canal will carry off all the water of the creeks and make it possible to till the soil of the basin during all seasons during which it is possible to cultivate that of the surrounding highland.

The former opposition to the work of progress has dwindled to nothing and all the residents of the community have become enthusiastic over the wonderful possibilities that the completion of the undertaking offers them.

On the borders of the prairie region are three postoffices, Fulda at the south end, Laurel on the west and Glenwood on the northeast. The progressive citizens of Laurel have organized a development league and are placing before the public the possibilities of the region. Glenwood is an important village because of the fact that it is the packing place for the sheep men, who pasture in the Forest Reserve during the summer months. During the past summer 80,000 sheep have fed on the government land around the base of Mt. Adams. The government charges the sheep men seven cents per head for the old sheep for the entire season, making no charges for lambs. Six thousand lambs were shipped in one train from this region last week to Chicago.

Until the community has railroad transportation the resources of the region will be mainly drawn from stock raising, and dairy products. However, because of its proximity to the White Salmon Valley, where all landowners specialize in fruit growing, its hay will find a ready demand. This and other adjacent fruit sections are developing rapidly. Every flock of their development means an increase in the demand for the hay raised close at hand.

However, because of the agricultural and timber resources of the community and the present closeness of transcontinental lines and their easy access to the community it will perhaps be but a short time until a railroad penetrates it. Several surveys have already been made through the region. With the exception of the Columbia river the grade across Grouse Pass west of the Camas Prairie region is said to be the lowest across the Cascades. On the hills surrounding the hay and stock growing region is about three billion feet of first class merchantable timber, fir and yellow pine. Because of the fertility of the soil, when transportation facilities have been facilitated by the advent of the railroad, the lake bottom, with its rich deposit of decayed vegetable matter, will be an ideal location for the small truck farmer.

The good roads of the region are a revelation to the stranger. Road building, because of the conformation of the country, has been no great task. There has been no difficult work in cutting heavy grades and on all sides of the basin the autoist may delight in long stretches of level, graded highways. The fruit growing communities along the Columbia have realized that good roads will not only be of assistance in drawing the Camas trade to them but that they will make easy the transportation of the feedstuff to their barns. At this season of the year the traveler penetrating the community meets wagon after wagon loaded down with hay, which the White Salmon orchardists have purchased at good prices and which they are hauling home for their winter stock feed.

For a number of years water has been taken from the Bird, Frazer and Holmes creeks for the purpose of irrigating the upland and lowland corner of the basin. However, along the north and northwest sides of the level region is about 12,000 acres of fertile land covered with scattered pine and sagebrush. Because of the slight growth of timber, the clearing of this land is comparatively easy. Five years ago the progressive farmers of the Glenwood section filed upon the waters of Bell Roaring and Congar Creeks, glacial streams at the northeast of Mount Adams. Active steps are now being taken to form an irrigation district for the region, whereby at

the cost of \$7.50 per acre water may be secured for the whole extent of fertile soil. L. N. Amstutz, formerly of Kennewick, where he developed a large acreage of strawberry land, is one of the citizens of the district most actively engaged in hastening the irrigation project. Mr. Amstutz is owner of about 600 acres of land in the region.

The yellow pine in certain sections of the community is being worked up by small sawmills. As soon as the timber is cleared from the land, the owners follow up with grubbing crews and area under cultivation is gradually growing.

Four miles north of Glenwood the Klickitat Development Co. has a large crew of men at work developing an enormous amount of power. The company has purchased both banks of the river for six miles. A flume-way is being constructed that what finished will give them at its end a sheer fall of 650 feet for their water.

During the past year many citizens of Hood River have made visits to the Camas Prairie region, where because of the excellent agricultural opportunities offered, they have made investments. Among those from this county owning land in the Washington district are: J. R. Putnam, James E. Montgomery, E. O. Hall, N. W. Ione, Fred W. Wasson, Charles L. Wheeler, Joe G. Vogt and L. N. Wood. The latter, who is a brother of J. M. Wood, of this city, purchased a large tract at this end of the Conboy basin last fall. Caspar W. Hodson, a wealthy New York publisher, and James Williams, of Portland, have each bought holdings through Mr. Wheeler.

**GOVERNMENT MAN
SECURES SPECIMENS**

B. B. Pratt, of the Pomological Department of the United States Department of Agriculture, who was here about a month ago studying conditions in the Valley, arrived again last Friday for the purpose of securing specimens of the earlier varieties of apples and to make arrangements to get the later ones for the purpose of subjecting them to the tests that will be conducted by the government in storage of fruit in Portland. When the government expert was here on a former visit it was thought that the point at which the experiment would be conducted had been located at Spokane. However, the Department of Agriculture has since chosen Portland. Apples from the following districts will be used in the tests: Hood River, Payette, Spokane, Milton, North Yakima, Wenatchee and probably from the Rogue River Valley.

Mr. Pratt says that the government has selected for the experiments ten or twelve different varieties. The following comparisons will be made: Immediate as against delayed storage, immature versus mature picking, well colored fruit versus green fruit, small fruit versus large fruit, fruit from old trees as against that from young ones and irrigated versus non-irrigated. Samples from all the prominent northwestern sections will be assembled at Portland, said Mr. Pratt, where it will be subjected to the tests and inspected at intervals during the winter and spring.

**DEMONSTRATION TRAIN
IN DES CHUTES POINTS**

What promises to be a veritable farm on wheels will leave Portland on a special train on the O-W. R. & N. tracks next month for a 10-day trip into the Des Chutes Valley and to the principal points in Sherman, Morrow and Gilliam counties, for the purpose of demonstrating to the farmers of those sections the best manner of obtaining the biggest returns from their land.

One car will be fitted up to represent the latest ideas in housing hogs. Two girls of each of the Berkshire, Poland China and Duroc breeds will be contained, besides four specimens of cross-bred hogs to demonstrate the proper type of packing pork that can be grown successfully in Oregon. Individual hog houses will be constructed in the car and the manner of feeding, nursing and breeding will be shown.

Another car will be a miniature poultry yard. Live chickens will be carried. Typical buildings, nests and brooders will be shown and demonstrations calculated to instruct in the best manner of caring, feeding, protecting against disease and fics will be given. Breeds of poultry that are best adapted to the Oregon climate and soil will be used as specimens. Feeding devices and watering troughs will be shown.

A third car will contain actual specimens of Oregon field peas and methods showing how they can be grown and fed successfully and profitably. Peas and pigs, it is believed, are likely to become the sources of greatest revenue to the Oregon farmer and for this reason the train has been christened the "Hog and Field Pea Special."

Assessor Wickham Receives Tax.
County Assessor J. W. Wickham, who has been busy recently sending out his assessment notices for next year, has received several interesting replies accompanied by money orders for amounts supposed to be due for taxes. One man, whose tax was assessed at \$100, thinking that the notice was a bill for a dollar, enclosed that amount to the assessor. Another, receiving a notice of a \$20 assessment, by a computation of his own device, figured that his tax was twenty cents, which he remitted. The county court does not make a levy of the tax until next January, after which it is payable to the sheriff of the county.

For bowel complaint in children always give Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and castor oil. It is certain to effect a cure and, when resorted to with water and sweetened is pleasant to take. No physician can prescribe a better remedy. For sale by all dealers.

Advertised Letter List.
Sept. 25, 1911.
Armstrong, Mrs. Fille; Bridgeford, Mrs. M. A.; Francis, Mrs. M. J.; Peterson, Miss Marie; Roberts, Mrs. T. L.; Robertson, Mrs. J. M.; Sutton, Mrs. Hewett; Walsh, Mrs. Nettie; Armstrong, L. H.; Calligan, T. J.; Coburn, H. E.; Davis, W. M.; Foster, J. H.; Garnett, W. S.; Goodwin, E. C.; Green, E. M.; Harvey, E. C.; Huppely, E.; Hunter, M. C.; Linn, L. A.; Laton, Martin; Leaton, Martin; Mills, F. F. H.; Phillips, Walter; Renwick, Jay P. Lucas, Postmaster.

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THE PATENT SAFE SWINDLE.

It Was a Plausible Trick That Generally Caught the Coin and Sent the Bewildered Victim Out of Town in a Hurry For Fear of Arrest.

Although the essentials of imposture remain unchanged from generation to generation, so that the rogue of today would have no trouble in recognizing his counterpart of the seventeenth century, nevertheless there are fashions in thievery, as in everything else. Old tricks are cast off like threadbare coats in favor of newer ones, and these in turn are discarded when fashion has rendered them familiar and therefore less effective, but plausibility and address are the indispensable qualities of the gentry who live by their wits.

The newest type of confidence man is the get-rich-quick individual who breathes of money and wouldn't turn his hand to a small "job." He angles for victims with new corporations and great business ventures for bait, but he is the same man who a generation ago raked in the shekels by means of the patent safe game. This game is now an outworn fashion. But it had its points.

Let us suppose a countryman, carpeting in hand, to have alighted at the union station and set out to see the sights. Although his name is conveniently printed on the outside of his bag or set down in a legible hand on the hotel register, he is amazed to find himself hospitably greeted by an utter stranger, who knows his name and the town from which he hails. The stranger is an old friend whom the countryman is ashamed to think he cannot remember—place is the word. But the stranger is very affable and lays himself out to entertain the newcomer. They stroll about town in company, visit a bar or two, exchange reminiscences and at the end of a few hours are bosom companions. The stranger invariably pays the score, has a lovely disdain of money; good fellowship is his own reward.

The two stroll by devious ways until finally while they are walking arm in arm down a quiet bystreet the stranger's eye is caught by a curious object lying on the pavement. He pauses to examine it. It is a miniature globe about the size of a billiard ball. The stranger turns it over curiously in his fingers and finally sees that it is fitted with a small plug, which comes out under pressure. Continuing his explorations, he then unscrews the top of the plug, takes out a piece of crumpled paper, shows it to the empty box and throws the paper on the ground. There is a similar bit of paper in the small chamber at the end of the plug, but this the countryman does not see. The two then stroll on, discussing the mysterious ball.

Presently they come upon a worried looking man, who is studying the ground with a face the pattern of despair. The roper observes him and wants to know whether he has lost something.

"Lost something, indeed!" says the man. "Why, I've lost an invention of mine that I wouldn't have taken \$10,000 for. It was a patent fire safe which would save hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of papers and valuables every year. I was just on my way to Blank & Blank's, the safe manufacturers, to get one made, and here I have lost the model."

The roper is evidently much touched by the inventor's distress. He produces the wooden globe and is immediately overwhelmed with expressions of gratitude.

"But what good is that invention of yours?" asks the roper.

"Well," says the inventor with pride, "you see, it is set on props. When there is a fire all you have to do is to knock out the props and the safe rolls down an incline right out of the building as neat as you please. There's a box inside to hold the papers. There is a paper in this box right now."

At that the roper winks slyly at the farmer and whispers in his ear. "I'll make him a bet on that piece of paper."

"Come," says the roper, "that's a pretty tall yarn. I don't believe there's any paper in that ball. I'll bet there isn't a scrap of paper in it."

"I'll bet you \$1,000 there's a paper in it," says the inventor, much incensed. "I haven't that much with me," says the roper, "but I'll just bet you a hundred on it." With that he takes out a number of bills, say \$50 or so, and a bank check for the other \$50. To his friend the farmer he says, "Will you just lend me \$50 on this check until I can get to my hotel?"

The farmer sees that his friend is sure to win. He advances the \$50, when, behold, the inventor draws out the plug, removes the concealed paper from its small chamber and collects the bet. The roper is decidedly crestfallen, but while he is still lamenting his folly a policeman rushes up, charges him with gambling and makes a grab for him. Roper flees, but the farmer is caught. After protesting his innocence the farmer is allowed to depart. Still fearful of arrest, he flees the city. When he presents his check he discovers that roper, inventor and policeman are all confidence men who have enriched themselves at his expense.—Chicago Record Herald.

No harm can befall a good man, whether alive or dead.—Socrates.

"I have a world of confidence in Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for I have used it with perfect success," writes Mrs. M. I. Easton, Poolesville, Md. For sale by all dealers.

Glacier Ownership Maps.
Up to date blue print, present owner ship maps of the Hood River valley are for sale at the Glacier office. This map is in two sections, the lower and the upper valley. It has the roads and streams marked and the names of all owners written over their tracts. The price of the map complete is \$1. will be sent to any address postpaid upon receipt of the price.

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NAPOLEON'S TAILOR.

One Man Who Dared to Disobey His Imperial Master.

The diary of Proumes de la Siboutie (born 1789, died in 1863, recently translated into English, has something about Napoleon, that remarkable man who continues to be the most interesting figure in European history. Here is one about Napoleon's carelessness in dress, and what came of it:

In 1810, when Napoleon went to Compiègne to receive Marie Louise, his sister, the Princess Borghese said to him:

"Your clothes are badly cut and do not fit you. You are so obstinate about not wearing braces—your trousers always look as if they were falling off."

"Well," answered the emperor, "what do you advise me to do about it? Can you recommend another tailor?"

"Have a talk with Constant."

Constant, the emperor's valet, was sent for and named one Leger, who was tailor to Murat, Prince Eugene, Joseph and Jerome Bonaparte. A messenger was sent to summon him, and he arrived at Compiègne the next day. From that moment he made every-

thing Napoleon wore. He consistently ignored his imperial patron's suggestions concerning his clothes. For instance, the emperor wished the skirts of his tunics to be turned back, like those of Frederick the Great. "I should not think of allowing such a thing, sire! You would look absurd, and my reputation would be lost. The eyes of the whole world are upon your majesty, and if you were seen wearing such a uniform as you propose it would be a disadvantage to you, and I should have to bear the blame. I would not make you such a tunic if you offered me the whole of your empire."

"I wonder why the English people have taken the rose as their national flower?"

"Why not?"

"Judging by the way their peerage hunt American fortunes, I should think a more appropriate floral emblem would be *marrygold*."—Baltimore American.

Dad Was Horsey.
"Pa, what did Herodotus do?"
"Oh, I think he won a purse that was offered for three-year-olds once. Say, can't you quit bothering me when I'm trying to read what is going on in the world?"—Chicago Record-Herald.

Too Great a Sacrifice.
She (weary of waiting)—If you sell 't dog, John, we could get married. He—An' wouldn't O! look silly to sell a dog like that to be married!—London Opinion.

"It is not work that kills men—it is worry. The revolution is not what destroys machinery, but the friction."



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