

**MILD AND DELIGHTFUL WEATHER.**

**No Blizzards, No Cyclones, No Destructive Storms or Droughts--Rainfall 117 Inches in 1898.**

NATURALLY the most important question to a stranger seeking a home is the weather. Well, we can supply only a limited variety of weather. We don't claim to be running a department store. Seekers after cyclones needn't apply. We never carried 'em in stock. Blizzards? You will have to go to some other old place for them Northers? No; they are too expensive, too high for us. Droughts? Just out. In fact, have been out since the days of Noah.

Some evil-minded people insinuate that when the Lord commanded the rain to cease on that memorable occasion, he forgot all about Tillamook, and it has been raining here ever since. We can't supply you with any ice, either. As for snow, well, we have some just for to sample, but three good healthy boys could make the whole season's crop up into one man, and a stack of snow balls to protect him with. In fact, if the weather ever got to be 10 degrees below zero, all old-timers would freeze up solid, and would be giving you the frozen hand, which they never have done yet to anybody. This lack of cold weather, however, is not really a drawback.

When one of our Minnesota men gets lonesome in the winter, he only has to travel about 15 miles up in the mountains where he can get into snow over his head.

The principal fault with our weather is its lack of variety. A fellow never has the satisfaction of guessing what it is going to do next. He knows. He knows that when he puts in a crop, it is going to come up, and after it comes up, he knows that it isn't going to freeze out, or dry up, and blow away. He knows that nobody in Tillamook county never lost a crop, unless he was too lazy to harvest it. Gum boots come handy at times, but our experience leads us to believe that a man on a farm can do more wearing gum boots than he could wallowing around on snow shoes, or a pair of skates. In fact, we never "get our skates on"—at least hardly ever.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TILLAMOOK HEADLIGHT.

MR. EDITOR,—Requests are made by many persons in and out of Tillamook to have the weather reports published, so that they may know what the climate is in our county during the winter season, as also to answer the questions asked of me, both by letters and the U. S. Agricultural Department, as to what is the amount of water supply, and how much irrigation do we have to perform, in order to insure a crop of grain, fruit or vegetables. I have paid close attention to the reports of the weather in other parts of the state of Oregon and of the United States. Those reports show that in many of the Eastern and Northern states the snow storms were heavy enough in places to stop all traffic in cities and on country roads and railroads for many days; as also the violent wind and rain storms, causing the loss of many lives of men and animals, as well as a large amount of shipping. A close examination of the Tillamook reports will show that while those destructive storms were raging in the Eastern and Northern States, in Tillamook county we were enjoying a mild winter, for the full amount of snow fall on the lowlands during the whole winter did not reach 10 inches in depth, while in Eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the temperature went so low as to kill many hundreds of fruit trees and cattle and horses. For six nights only, at my station, did the thermometer run down "to 10 degrees above zero," and the greatest amount of ice found at any one time, was during those six nights. It only froze 2½ inches thick on a large sheet of water, and on a close observation no fruit trees have been winter killed. Fall sown grain sowed early is doing well. Pasturage has kept green and growing all the winter. For five days in the month of November, 1898, at noon, at my station, the maximum temperature reached 98 degrees, and for the 33 years that I have kept a local daily record of the weather at my home or station, I have only once in that time known the temperature to go down as low as it has this winter, nor in that length of time have I any record of, or know of a failure of crops in Tillamook county. We have no use for irrigation, trust or combines to control these things. Our creeks and rivers are all rapid, and if necessary, it would be but a small expense to throw water from them over the low lands, or over high buildings, for these rivers and creeks have never been known to go dry. In the dry season we get occasional heavy wet fog and dew, equivalent to rain showers in the interior counties.

Having given you the status of the general weather or climate of Tillamook County during the six months of the fall and winter season, from the month of September to the month of March; the question naturally occurs to, and by the people, inquiring about the status of the weather, health and general character of Tillamook county in summer as well as in the winter, are we burnt up with summer heat, drought and failure of crops? To all of the above questions, I beg leave to reply, from official reports collected by me during the six months, from the spring Equinox, March 20th, 1898, to September 22nd, 1898:

Highest maximum, 93 degrees, June 5th; lowest maximum, 44 degrees, March 23rd; highest minimum, 60 degrees, June 25th; lowest minimum, 25 degrees, March 22nd. Mean of highest maximum and lowest minimum temperature during the six months, 59 degrees.

Total amount of rainfall for the same period (31.30) thirty-one inches and thirty tenths, independent of the heavy dews that fall during the summer months. In order to show that we are not parched and sun dried, nor the leaves of the trees curled up, nor the bark of the fruit trees cracked and shriveled for want of rain, or irrigation—as the lands in the States south of us, as also east of us to the Rocky mountains, I give the rainfall in each month in inches and tenths: March, 3.33; April, 8.89; May, 6.18; June, 6.89; July, 1.55; August, 0.87; September, 3.51; in order to show the magnificent distribution of the rain during the whole season. You will observe that during the hay making months of July and August, the rainfall is very light, giving a good opportunity for the farmers to make and house

their hay crop in good order. It sometimes happens that the eclipses come in those months, and if the hay makers will pay attention to the warnings given by the U. S. W. B. or their local practical voluntary weather observer, they would lose little or no hay, as has been demonstrated in our county. When the rainfalls are light our crops are blessed with dew by night equal to light rains. Thunder storms are either very few, or not at all during the summer months, except they occur on the summer eclipses. Mr. Editor, with the above condition of the "natural" supply of water for the crops of all kinds, and the general status of temperature given above, I say, sir, what need have we in Tillamook County for "irrigating trusts or their irrigating machines?" None, sir. The only trust we have any faith in for raising our crops is the abundance of rain fall. Taking the above remarks under consideration let me draw a comparison with the country south, east and north. Beginning with California, the total amount of rain given for the last year is 15 inches, Arizona 7 inches, Idaho 9 inches, Washington from 15 to 20 inches, according to location. What do we derive from the effects of our rain as against those other states with their light rain fall? While the newspaper and U. S. W. Bureau reports the droughts and failure of crops, leaves drying up and falling from the trees for want of moisture in California and Arizona, and almost similiar weather in Kansas and Nebraska, and to the north of us a short summer season, and long, icy, stormy winters, Tillamook County does not experience any such seasons of drought or loss of crops.

The moisture is so distributed that drought has no chance to take hold and make barren fields, nor ice and snow to interfere with our growing crops. While we have the mountains continually covered with evergreen trees, just so are our fields green with grass in the wood, and pastures the entire year, keeping our creameries and cheese factories running the whole year on account of the abundance of green clover and grass. The loggers are able to go into the mountains, cut down their timber in summer, put it in the rivers, and when the fall and winter rains come take pleasure in seeing their logs float down stream, starting at the height of 2,000ft. above tide water. As regards the health of Tillamook county, I say we have no malarial lagoons or swamps to breed fevers and agues, and the experience of my 32 years' residence in Tillamook county is this, that those persons who come to Tillamook and have those diseases, bring them with them in their system, but owing to the bracing sea breeze and equable climate soon get rid of them.

TEMPERATURE.						
From September 20th, 1898, to March 20th, 1899.	Highest Max.	Lowest Max.	Highest Min.	Lowest Min.	Prevailing Wind.	
SEPTEMBER .....	69	58	54	43	N.W.	
OCTOBER .....	66	54	51	30	W.	
NOVEMBER .....	72	43	50	30	N.W.	
DECEMBER .....	51	25	48	25	W.	
JANUARY .....	55	39	48	28	W.	
FEBRUARY .....	54	28	48	10	N.W.	
To MARCH 20th .....	57	45	43	30	W.	

Total amount of rainfall and snow, from September 22nd, 1898, to March 20th, 1899:

	Amount of rain in inches.	Greatest amount in 24 hours.	Date.	Snow.
SEPTEMBER .....	3.78	1.12	30	0
OCTOBER .....	8.51	1.00	1	0
NOVEMBER .....	16.34	2.50	30	0
DECEMBER .....	12.00	2.25	26	0
JANUARY .....	23.53	2.85	20	½
FEBRUARY .....	16.89	3.20	8	8
MARCH .....	5.40	0.80	7	0
Totals .....	86.45			8½

So, in closing my remarks, I say to those persons who have been frozen or droughted out, and are searching for a home where the climate is mild, and no irrigation is needed, let them come and dwell among us.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH J. DAWSON,  
Weather Observer, Kilchis Station, Tillamook.

**PACK ME OFF TO TILLAMOOK.**

Annual feelin's comin' on  
As the sun gits up a heat,  
Want to pack up an' be gone  
To some mountainous retreat;  
Want to leave the city's din,  
Shake it's troubles an' its sin,  
An' jest fairly revel in  
Laziness from head to feet.  
Pack me off to Tillamook.

Want to seek some quiet nook  
Only God has every seen,  
Near a crystal babbling brook  
Playin' in a frame of green.  
There to drink the mountain air  
Like 'twas wine of vintage rare,  
An' forgit there is a care  
Or a sorrow cold and keen.  
Pack me off to Tillamook.

Want to see the deer at play  
On the virgin grassy sod,  
Want to loll the hours away  
Coupled to a fishin' rod.  
Listen to the merry songs  
Of the birds in joyous throngs—  
Go where everything belongs  
Just exclusively to God.  
Pack me off to Tillamook.

Want to lie in camp at night  
Hearin' the coyotes howl;  
Watch the fire a-sparkin' bright,  
Listen to the hootin' owl.  
Mebbe wouldn't die of fear  
Or of tenderfootish sheer  
If we now an' then would hear  
Mountain lions 'round us growl.  
Pack me off to Tillamook.

Want to feel the sothin' kiss  
Of the breezes in their freaks,  
Revel in the feathery bliss,  
Of their touch upon our cheeks;  
Want to see the spray arise,  
Dart around like jewelled flies,  
Sparkle 'neith the sunlit skies  
Archin' o'er the dashin' creeks.  
Pack me off to Tillamook.

Same ol' yearnin' feelin' comes  
Reg'lar with the dawn of spring,  
Till the mem'ry-beaten drums  
Of the ears with music ring—  
Music of the hummin' bees,  
Music of the whisp'rin' breeze,  
Music of the rustlin' trees  
An' the notes the songbirds sing.  
Pack me off to Tillamook.