

DESCRIBE SALEM AREA

Department of Agriculture Issues Pamphlet Valuable To This Section

Treats Extensively Upon Meteorological Conditions, Character of Soil and Mechanical Analyses of Same—Also Supplement with Maps and Tabulated Data of Interest to All—Valuable to This Section as Advertising.

A pamphlet has recently been issued by the United States department of agriculture, which is of great interest and vast importance to the people of Salem and surrounding country, embracing an area covering 284 square miles.

The survey of the Salem area, which is treated in the pamphlet referred to, was made by Charles A. Jensen late in the year 1904, and the report has but recently been issued.

About a dozen copies of these reports have been received by Secretary of State Dunbar. Mr. Dunbar volunteered to turn them over to the Statesman, where anybody who is interested enough in them to desire a copy may procure one for the asking.

The climate of that part of the Willamette valley surveyed is humid, though the summer months are comparatively dry. The annual normal precipitation at Salem is 45.18 inches.

The Willamette valley is located in the northwestern part of the state, extending from Portland on the north to some distance beyond Eugene on the south, a distance of between 130 and 150 miles.

History and Agricultural Development. The first settlement in Oregon was made at Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia river, in 1811.

CO MA By Caution 2:25. Sire of Francisco 2:12, Edson 2:16, Kitty Caution 2:25, Juniper 2:25, Sallie 2:16, Lady Carey 2:25, Balfour 2:25, Ruth 2:26, Electrophore 2:25, and the dams of Ollie M. 2:15, Helen Norte 2:15, Bellad 2:19, Oregon 2:14, Mattison 2:17, Temper 2:19, Thorwald 2:19, Capt. Thorne 2:19, and fifteen others, and eight dams of ten in the list.

A War Map Free

We will give you a finely colored map of the Orient, showing where the present war is being fought, with all the names of the towns of which we are reading every day, and also a complete map of Asia, free to each of our subscribers who will get us one new subscriber for three months, remitting us 25 cents.

TO THE OLD HOME

If you are going home—to your childhood's home—this year, remember that the NORTHERN PACIFIC leads to everybody's home. You can go by way of St. Paul to Chicago, or St. Louis, and thence reach the entire East and South.

Start right and you will probably arrive at your destination all right, and, to start right, use the Northern Pacific, and preferably the "NORTH COAST LIMITED" train, in service after MAY 6th.

A. D. CHARLTON Assistant General Passenger Agent, PORTLAND, OREGON.

Table with columns: Fahrenheit and the second column the number of inches; Temperature; Precipitation. Rows for months from January to December.

For the year..... 52.5 45.18 The following gives the dates of the latest and earliest killing frosts in Salem, the first date mentioned designating the first frost in the spring and the second one the first frost in the fall:

Physiography and Geology. The Cascade and Coast ranges are geologically recent, and the valley itself more recent than either. The Cascade mountains appeared at the close of the Cretaceous period, and together with the Sierra Nevada, formed a sea dike, which shut in an enormous lake on the east with the Blue mountains as an island.

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History and Agricultural Development. The first settlement in Oregon was made at Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia river, in 1811. The first settlers supported themselves by fishing and fur trading, meanwhile fighting the

willamette river and Mill creek undoubtedly occupied the entire level areas along their respective courses in earlier times, and these areas have since been filled up to their present level with soil transported from the hills.

Acres of Different Soils. Salem clay..... 86,490 47.5 Salem loam..... 78,656 43.3 Salem gravelly loam..... 13,120 7.2 Salem sandy loam..... 3,648 2.0 Total.....181,924

The surface soil of the Salem loam consists of from eighteen to twenty-four inches of brown to black loam, the color at the surface being darker on account of the presence of considerable organic matter.

The area is level and is intersected by an occasional water channel. Some portions of the type, near the creek and small channels, are poorly drained, but as a general thing the natural drainage is good.

The origin of the loam of this type is the same as the Salem loam—transportation of soil from the higher lying lands by rain and flood streams—while the gravel has been carried in by the creek, which formerly occupied a much larger area than it does now.

The Salem sandy loam consists of about twelve inches of medium textured brown sandy loam, underlain to a depth of three feet by a coarse sandy loam, which usually grades into sand and gravel.

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dissolved organic matter sinks into the ground more readily in these low places, causing decoloration of the large amounts of ferric oxides in the type proper and giving rise to the yellow or gray color of the soil. Where some of these areas have been drained the color of the subsoil is the typical red.

The Salem loam is well adapted to hops, grain and small fruits. Fifteen hundred pounds of hops per acre is considered a fair yield, while wheat produces from twenty-five to thirty bushels, and oats from thirty-five to sixty bushels per acre.

The Salem clay consists of from twelve to fifteen inches of reddish yellow loam, underlain to three feet by a clay loam or clay of the same color.

The type is located on both sides of the "prairie" or level valley soil (Salem loam) and consists of a series of rolling hills, which vary in height from about fifty feet to 400 or 500 feet. The front slopes of these hills—that is, the slopes facing the level lands, are often too steep for cultivation, as are also the creek channel slopes, but in the hill area itself the slopes are rarely too steep for agricultural purposes.

With the exception of a few low-lying areas along creek channels this type is well drained. It has been formed in situ from the decomposition and weathering of the underlying sandstone, argillaceous and schistose rocks, and a dense, close-grained basalt.

The crops grown on this type are wheat, corn, fruit, such as apples, prunes and peaches—and hops. The latter are grown to a limited extent, and the crop is not so common on this soil as on the "prairie" and river bottom lands.

A better quality of grain, especially of wheat, it is claimed, can be produced on the Salem clay than on the "prairie" soil. Prunes, the special fruit of the valley, do better on this type than on the Salem loam.

The average yields of wheat and oats are said to be from twenty-five to thirty bushels and from thirty to sixty bushels per acre, respectively, when the soil is in good condition.

The soil of the Salem gravelly loam consists of black or brown loam of the same character as the Salem loam, intermixed with gravel varying in size from fine gravel to stones two or three inches in diameter.

The area is level and is intersected by an occasional water channel. Some portions of the type, near the creek and small channels, are poorly drained, but as a general thing the natural drainage is good.

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The Salem sandy loam consists of about twelve inches of medium textured brown sandy loam, underlain to a depth of three feet by a coarse sandy loam, which usually grades into sand and gravel.

MILLER & MILLER Owing to the great demand for cutting and fitting of garments and the unprecedented sales in our wash goods, silk and dress goods departments we have prevailed upon these artists to remain with us during this week.

Men's Clothes Our stock presents satisfying variety in both fabrics and price ranges. Every suit is made over a carefully designed model. Each coat has the most handwork that its price can afford.

Jewels Necklaces and neck pendants in all wanted stones. All sizes and shades are represented in this collection.

SALEM'S GREATEST STORE THE "WHITE CORNER"

Stirring Specials in Dress Goods Beginning in the morning we make price concessions in wanted and dependable dress goods such as will specially clear our shelves. These for this week FITTED FREE.

places. This type is well drained when the river is down to its normal stage, but during high water the areas are sometimes flooded to a depth of several feet. This is also the case with the Salem loam, which occupies much of the river bottom land.

The original growth on much of the soil types in the area surveyed consisted of Douglas spruce, oak, alder and heavy underbrush, the clearing of which necessitated considerable work. The timber areas are usually pastured, and while this is not relied upon for clearing away the underbrush preparatory to clearing, it reduces the labor considerably.

The practice of planting one crop on the same piece of land year after year is much too common in the Salem area. The writer was shown many fields which had been sown to wheat or oats for from ten to twenty years, with no alternation of crops and no rest except an occasional summer fallowing.

The soils of the area, especially the Salem clay and Salem loam, are well adapted to the production of the cereals. When the yields show considerable decrease the usual practice is to let the land lie fallow for a season.

Generally speaking, the farmers of the area are energetic, thrifty and prosperous. They have a good idea of the value of things, and it is seldom one sees farm implements standing about exposed to the weather.

The greater number of the farms are operated by their owners, a few are run by managers, and a few are rented. No statistics by counties were available, but 82 per cent of the farms of the state are operated by the owners.

The average size of farms in Marion county, in which most of the area surveyed is located, is 144 acres, while the average size in Polk county is 216 acres.

Call and see him. Consultation free. Patients out of the city write for blank and circular. Enclose stamp. Address The C. Gee Wo Chinese Medicine Co., 251 1/2-253 Alder St., Portland, Oregon. Mention this paper.

for Polk county, the balance being mostly timber land, including a little waste or worthless land. There are in Marion county 2754 farms, and in Polk county 1192, practically all of which have buildings on them.

There is a good demand for timber, mainly spruce, in the form of cord-wood, as that is practically the only fuel used in Northwestern Oregon. It is used by all the public institutions as well as by private families, and the Southern Pacific uses it altogether on its engines in Oregon.

The price of land depends, of course, on whether it is improved or not—that is, whether it is cleared of timber. The "prairie" soil, as the Salem loam is locally called, brings from \$25 to \$50 an acre if improved, while the hill soils are held practically at the same price, if the land is not very rough, although owing to steep slopes, rock outcrops, etc., the average price for the latter is less than for the Salem loam.

The valley is well known for the excellent quality of its farm products, especially wheat, apples and prunes. The crops are of fairly good quality, and those grown on the higher lying lands, away from the direct influence of the river, are of exceptional quality.

Transportation facilities are good—that is, there are many railroad stations convenient for the farmers. The wagon roads are, however, by no means good, and especially is this true of the roads in the hill country.

These lines all run directly to Portland, fifty miles north of Salem, and as it is a central market and large distributing point both by water and rail, the farmers get good net prices for their products.

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DR. C. GEE WOO This wonderful Chinese doctor is called great because he cures people without operation that are given up to die. He cures those wonderful Chinese herbs, roots, buds, bark and vegetables, that are entirely unknown to medical science in this country.