

FACTS OF PRODUCTION FROM THE HEART OF THE SNAKE RIVER FRUIT SECTION

Ontario---Oregon Metropolis of Snake River Valley---Rapidly Growing Center of Fruit, Grain, Alfalfa and Livestock Industry.

GAS AND OIL BOOSTERS.

Who are the men entitled to credit for making this the center of the oil and gas field of the Snake River Valley? The work of prospecting has been going on for two or three years. The big flow at Ontario is from a well started less than six months ago and reads like a fairy tale. A million shares of stock were put on the market. It was sold at 2 cents, 5 cents, 10, 25, and now as high as 35 cents, and there is still half a million shares held by the promoters, only enough sold for development.



Ontario Oil Well.

heard for miles for three days and nights until the pipe could be capped and the gas got under control. The company has put in a \$5000 rotary drill and will go down 3500 to 4000 feet for oil.

The men who have made the sacrifice, put the brains and heart into the undertaking that promises to make this another Coffeyville, Kan., are David Wilson, J. R. Blackaby, W. E. Boyer, W. E. Lees, Ward Canfield, G. A. Pogue, A. L. Sprout, J. J. Burbridge, C. R. Emerson and W. H. Doolittle. These are local capitalists who are not afraid to sink a hundred or a thousand dollars on any venture that promises to put Ontario on the map. They are the men who are making Ontario known, who are doubling their money on all they touch, whose real estate is advancing, who are investing in lands, in city property, and who will make this city a railroad and manufacturing center.

The great prosperity of Ontario and surrounding country is its only drawback. Dairying, small fruit and other industries languish for lack of working people.

THE SUGAR BEET CROP PROFITABLE.

A. J. Quackenbush, two and a half miles from Ontario, had 20 acres of sugar beets last year that raised 52,790 pounds per acre, or over 26 tons per acre. He sold the crop for \$4.50 per ton, netting him \$71.75 per acre. John Ray, six miles from Ontario, raised 595,309 pounds on 11 acres, selling at same price. And there are others.

The beet sugar factory is at Nampa, just across the river in Idaho. Sugar beets are a splendid adjunct of dairying and hog raising and this industry has a great future. The factory turns out 1200 sacks of sugar a day.

A FEW PLAIN FACTS.

A. F. Boyer has an orchard adjoining the city, and took \$20 to the tree from his orchard this year. His crop this year netted him \$135 per 190 boxes, after paying for picking, packing and freight. He shipped his apples to Galveston and Dallas, Tex.

A. F. Gramse, who came from Hood River one year ago in February and bought 145 acres adjoining the town of Ontario, with an old 10-acre orchard. This he cleaned up and last fall sold off over 2000 boxes of apples. It had never before been sprayed or cultivated to amount to anything. He cut from 20 acres of alfalfa that averaged three tons per acre and sold it for \$3 per ton. The second crop went to seed and brought him \$1500. This was an average of \$90 per acre for the hay and alfalfa seed. Mr. Gramse says that he had one of the best orchards in Hood River and says this country is just as good an apple country as Hood River.

The biggest berry patch in this part of the country is run by M. B. Sherman, one mile from town. He grows immense crops, lets them dry

on the vine and threshes them out with a flail, and gets 30 cents a pound for the dry raspberries. He has made as high as a thousand pounds per acre and has in seven years made from \$100 to \$300 per acre.

C. E. Amidon threshed 62 bushels wheat to the acre.

C. W. Mollett threshed 90 acres wheat in 1908 that averaged 54 bushels.

Tom Jones had 23 acres oats that went 62 bushels to the acre.

E. B. Conklin, three and a half miles from Ontario, raised last year 60 to 75 bushels corn to the acre.

J. M. Butler, four miles from Ontario, raised 10 acres corn that went 70 bushels to the acre last year. Four acres went as much as 80 bushels to the acre. Never saw better corn in the corn belt of Iowa.

E. B. Conklin, Ontario, on two six-year-old trees, matured large crop of almonds by August. Gathered continuously for several months.

E. B. Conklin, Ontario, pastured 35 head of stock (eight horses, rest milch cows and young stock) on 10 acres from April 20, 1908, to November 1, 1908. Gave them no other feed. Cut four loads of hay besides.

A. R. Van Buren, Ironsides P. O., on Upper Willow Creek, has ranch-

sold for \$2 this spring.

J. H. Guerin, Ontario—Have 10 acres in fruit. Raise strawberries, dewberries and raspberries. My 10 acres will turn off from \$1200 to \$1500 a year. Raise strawberries in November. No trouble to raise two crops a year with water.

Will Reese, four miles from Ontario—Milked four cows in December, fed on nothing but third cutting alfalfa hay, and sold \$50 cream, net after paying expressage and hauling.

W. F. Doane, five miles south of Ontario—Dry farming on new ground turned off 35 bushels wheat to acre. Tested three per cent better than No. 1.

John Forbes, on the Owyhee, south of Ontario, got 15 bushels alfalfa seed as a first crop, 900 pounds, and sold at 12 1/2 cents a pound, or over \$100 per acre.

R. W. Clement, four miles from Ontario, husked 50 bushels corn from half an acre.

W. F. Doane, Ontario—Milked 13 cows and got \$70 in March for cream. Besides, raised calves and 90 head of hogs from the skim milk.

R. W. Clement, four miles from Ontario, had oats that went 87 1/2 bushels to the acre. Sowed May 5, 1908.

J. P. Schall, six miles from Onta-

ed 16 years and last year had a fine fruit crop, consisting of prunes and apples.

V. D. Hannah, who handles 250 acres, mostly to sheep, makes his land pay \$75 an acre. It is irrigated land, but sheep are run on blue grass pasture and fed alfalfa in winter. Mr. Hannah was raised in Indiana, just across the Ohio River from Kentucky. He says this valley in blue grass will support at least 15 sheep to the acre, while in Ohio and Kentucky three to five sheep to the acre is the limit. With irrigation nine months' pasture is possible here, and it is possible to graze sheep all winter.

J. D. Lackey, near Nyssa, has been handling alfalfa seven years. Has

rio, says nine tons alfalfa is regular crop.

A HONEY HEAVEN.
The honey producing statements here are a surprise even to a man who has lived in the coast country and knows the resources of the Coast Range for yielding this most delectable of sweets. The secret of the honey production here, which is larger than any section I have any accounts of, is that such a large acreage of alfalfa is allowed to go to seed. The millions of the little purple blooms of the lucerne clover, into which the bees can work even easier than into the white clover, afford a product from bees that is pure and perfectly white. Honey is destined to become one of the large-

The Oregon-Idaho Development Congress.

This organization has secured the enactment of a general port commission act, the passage of an amendment to the Oregon constitution to permit counties, cities and districts to build railroads and highways, and secured the passage of a new law in Idaho for district construction of railroads. Governor Chamberlain appointed following highway commission to work out the details of a railroad from Boise to Coos Bay, and other lines needed by the people:

- George Putnam, Medford.
- Wm. Grimes, Marshfield.
- G. W. Baldwin, Klamath Falls.
- Julian C. Byrd, Burns.
- C. F. Swigert, Portland.
- Drake C. O'Reilly, Portland.
- A. H. Devers, Portland.

60 acres and averages seven and a half tons to the acre and sells for \$5 a ton in the stack.

The B. F. Tussing orchard, three miles and a half from Ontario, is only seven and a half acres. Picked, packed and shipped 5742 boxes and averaged net \$1.50 per box. This would be \$8610, or over a thousand dollars per acre. He was offered \$1,000 an acre by a Yakima man the past week and refused.

W. R. Shimp—Am running 40 cows. Ship 100 pounds cream a week to Walla Walla. Am milking 27 cows at present. Make \$10 a ton feeding the hay for dairying.

John Doss, two miles south of Ontario—Raised two tons alfalfa seed on seven acres, and 17 tons hay besides. Net \$605.

A. H. Toopelt of Lewis county, Wash., bought 150 acres on Willow Creek. Says climate is dry and can almost any time of year. Is entirely free from rheumatism.

J. F. Doty—Rented 10 acres alfalfa land and got 80 tons. Get steady work all the year round.

Joe W. Robertson, 20 miles south on the Owyhee—Raised 130 bushels on one and a half acres corn. It was the big Missouri corn.

J. H. Rigby, on Owyhee—Raised 11 tons potatoes on less than one and a fourth acres.

Joe W. Robertson, on Owyhee—Raised 17 boxes Jonathan apples on one tree 12 years old.

Chas. Bradley, on Owyhee—Raised 239 tons alfalfa on 90 acres. Sold for \$4.50 a ton.

est articles of export because alfalfa seed growing is an established industry.

W. H. Pennington, nine miles south of Ontario—Handle three to five hundred stands of bees; produce annually about 40,000 pounds extracted honey. Sell for \$6.50 per 100. Find ready market. Honey is water white. Compares with best quality produced in any country. Sold \$1100 worth comb foundation last year.

W. M. McKibben leased five acres and put on 150 stands of bees. This fall as a product of those bees he sold 32,500 pounds extracted honey. Worth \$2800.

S. H. Bender of Silverton has located on a ranch within four miles of Ontario and is very enthusiastic over the country. He has a large family and will make himself a rich home in the irrigated section.

STRONG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
The executive and finance committee of the Oregon-Idaho Development Congress named at the Ontario meeting, which was the largest ever held in the state, was as follows: Wm. Hanley, Burns; Max Mayfield, Boise; David Wilson, Ontario; L. J. Simpson, North Bend; Henry Sengstacken, Marshfield; J. N. Teal, Portland. They will have charge of the Boise, Central Oregon and Coos Bay campaign.

Ex-Secretary of State Gibson of Idaho addressed the congress on irrigation and showed how worthless lands in the Snake River Valley were made worth \$250 an acre with water on them. Irrigation and railroads went hand in hand as developers of wealth.

TALES OF PRODUCTIONS BY THE PIONEERS.

I talked with a great many pioneers who attended the Development Congress, and found them just as enthusiastic about that section as the Johnny-Come-Latelles.

Wm. Morfitt has lived in the Snake River country since 1867. He has seen this section develop from a wilderness to a garden spot. He did the first farming in what is now Malheur county in 1868. In a talk Malheur county in 1868. In a talk

30 tons potatoes on Upper Willow Creek, on one acre: They were the Blue Methanick. Cabbages 15 pounds to the head for four acres, sold at 2 1/2 cents a pound. Potatoes sold for 2 cents a pound. There is a great field in this country for a desiccating plant to put up vegetables.

I had nine acres alfalfa that went 10 tons to the acre for several years. I raised Elberta peaches last year 12 inches in circumference. Had to quarter to get them into Mason jars.

David Dunbar: "I have been at Ontario since 1867. Raise fruit of nearly all kinds, such as apples, pears, cherries, plums, green gages, peaches and Italian and Petite prunes. Northern Spy and Ben Davis apples will keep till June."

seed is about 500 pounds to the acre."

Henry Eldridge, 12 miles from Ontario, sold \$3800 worth of alfalfa seed at 12 1/2 cents a pound, from 55 acres. Seed frequently brings as high as \$75 an acre.

Wm. Morfitt: "My strawberry patch last year yielded at rate of \$1600 an acre."

WHAT SOME NEWCOMERS SAY.

Stepp, Pinkerton & Co., real estate, law, loans and insurance, have been in Ontario only a month, coming to Oregon from Oklahoma. They brought their families and are acquiring homes. They like the climate about 50 per cent better than where they came from, the weather being far more settled and equable.

Judging the year by the month of March. They are agreeably surprised at the high class of the citizenship they find in eastern Oregon. In the new towns of Oklahoma and New Mexico there is a mixture of races not found here, and then the standards of intelligence here are much higher. The people are all prosperous and their methods of doing business are up-to-date.

F. B. Naylor & Co. is a new firm in real estate, insurance and loans, Mr. Naylor having landed here on March 1. He is a Philadelphian and

chandise business. The Rader brothers are of German extraction, born merchants, and also conduct an exclusive shoe store in Boise. They came from Kansas to the Snake River country seven years ago, and have built up a large trade. Frank Rader, who is the genius of the firm, is a very optimistic booster for this section and has reason to be, for it has done very well by him. He says: "I like the climate and the people. The winters are far more even than in Kansas. That section of the United States seems to be at the very parting of the equinox, so to speak. When the winds are not blowing from the north they are blowing from the south, and my, how they do blow. We are free from those terrible winds here, and cyclones are unknown. We do have some warm weather in summer for a few weeks, but no hotter than any other place. We need warm weather to make this a corn and hog country. If you think we can't raise corn, go into our Commercial Club and see the samples."

A. W. Trow, one of the lecturers of the State Agricultural College of Minnesota, and an expert in the fruit business who has traveled over a great deal of country, has located here with full faith in the Ontario country as a fruit region. He has put out 40 acres in apples and cherries half a mile east of the city.

To show how new a town Ontario is, Mr. Burbridge o. Burbridge & Doolittle, is today the oldest real estate man in town, and he has only been dealing in dirt for five years. He has been a constant advocate of the Malheur project and still believes in it. This firm handles all kinds of lands, improved and unimproved. Homesteading is about played out, and in the past six weeks nearly all the homesteads were gobbled up. The rush into this part of Oregon is constantly increasing.

Frank M. Northrop of Eugene owns 150 acres near Ontario. He has put it under the irrigation project and will develop it. It cost him \$7.50. When irrigated it will be worth \$250 an acre.

The electric road from Boise to Caldwell has advanced land from \$100 to \$500 per acre the entire length of it, and it was the second railroad.

Mr. Griffith stated that in May the Development Congress would meet there upon the occasion of the opening of the government irrigation project in this neighboring city of Ontario.

STRONG COMMERCIAL CLUB.
The Ontario Commercial Club maintains an exhibit and club headquarters that would be creditable for a larger city. The officers are Dr. J. Prinsing, president; C. E. Kenyon, vice president; L. Adam, treasurer; C. C. Payne, secretary; H. C. Boyer, C. E. Holding, C. W. Emerson, W. T. Lampkin, G. W. Long, E. Fraser, W. H. Doolittle, directors. Investors and homeseekers should address Mr. Payne.

Among industries that might find a foothold at Ontario are a planing mill (there are two lumber yards), a creamery, a brick yard, an ice plant, a cannery, a woolen mill and scouring plant, a cold storage plant, laundry and machine shop, electrical supplies and fruit driers. The opportunities for a desiccating plant, vegetables and fruit, and natural gas, are extraordinary.

E. B. Tremain, who came to Ontario last June from Fremont, Neb., says there is almost entire absence of the harsh winds and sudden changes that prevail in Nebraska. The hot weather of summer is not oppressive here as it is in Nebraska and the climate in winter is mild and free from storms.

Rader Bros. & Lampkin are here three years running a general mer-

chandise business. The Rader brothers are of German extraction, born merchants, and also conduct an exclusive shoe store in Boise. They came from Kansas to the Snake River country seven years ago, and have built up a large trade. Frank Rader, who is the genius of the firm, is a very optimistic booster for this section and has reason to be, for it has done very well by him. He says: "I like the climate and the people. The winters are far more even than in Kansas. That section of the United States seems to be at the very parting of the equinox, so to speak. When the winds are not blowing from the north they are blowing from the south, and my, how they do blow. We are free from those terrible winds here, and cyclones are unknown. We do have some warm weather in summer for a few weeks, but no hotter than any other place. We need warm weather to make this a corn and hog country. If you think we can't raise corn, go into our Commercial Club and see the samples."

To show how new a town Ontario is, Mr. Burbridge o. Burbridge & Doolittle, is today the oldest real estate man in town, and he has only been dealing in dirt for five years. He has been a constant advocate of the Malheur project and still believes in it. This firm handles all kinds of lands, improved and unimproved. Homesteading is about played out, and in the past six weeks nearly all the homesteads were gobbled up. The rush into this part of Oregon is constantly increasing.

Frank M. Northrop of Eugene owns 150 acres near Ontario. He has put it under the irrigation project and will develop it. It cost him \$7.50. When irrigated it will be worth \$250 an acre.

The electric road from Boise to Caldwell has advanced land from \$100 to \$500 per acre the entire length of it, and it was the second railroad.

Mr. Griffith stated that in May the Development Congress would meet there upon the occasion of the opening of the government irrigation project in this neighboring city of Ontario.

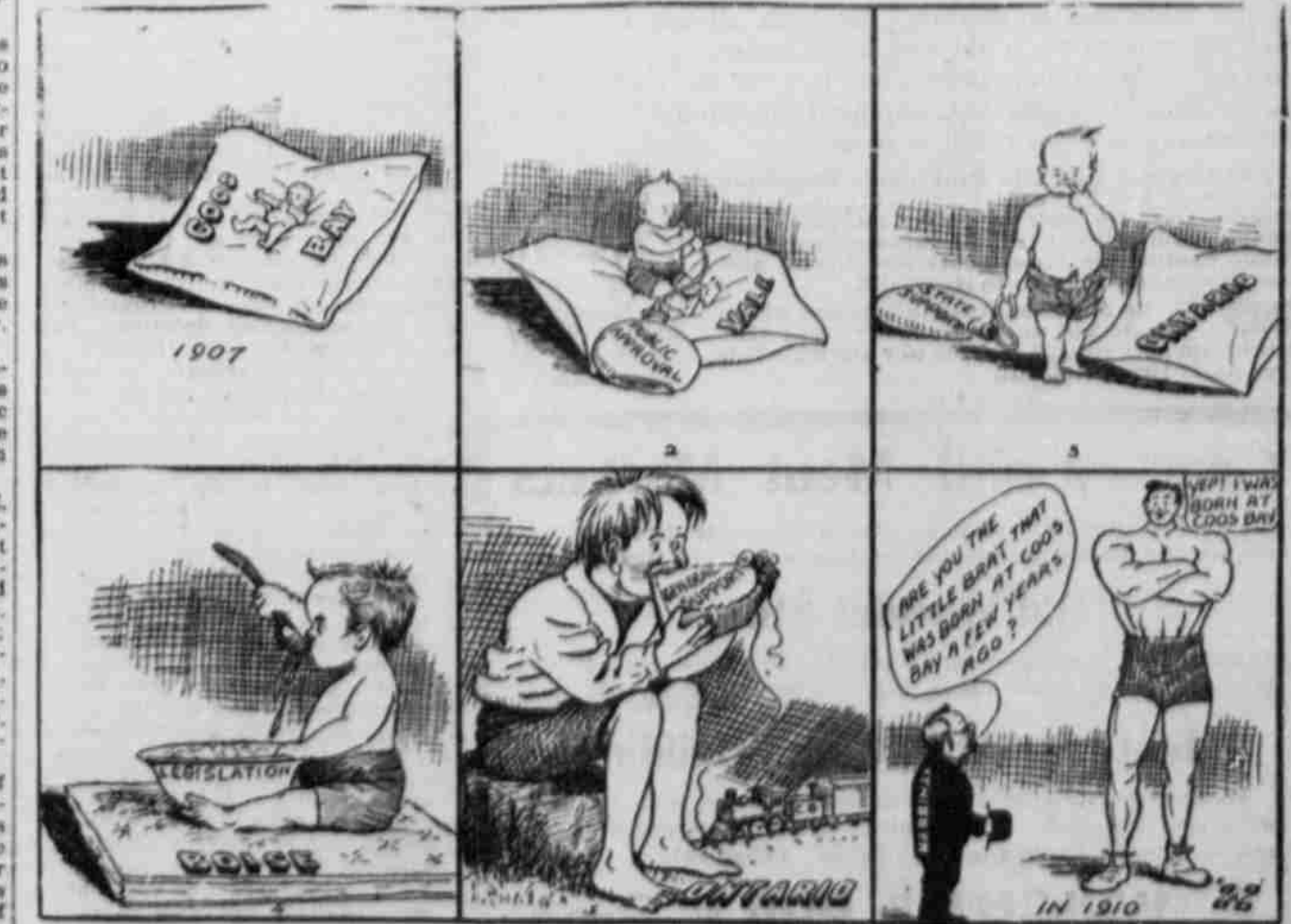
STRONG COMMERCIAL CLUB.
The Ontario Commercial Club maintains an exhibit and club headquarters that would be creditable for a larger city. The officers are Dr. J. Prinsing, president; C. E. Kenyon, vice president; L. Adam, treasurer; C. C. Payne, secretary; H. C. Boyer, C. E. Holding, C. W. Emerson, W. T. Lampkin, G. W. Long, E. Fraser, W. H. Doolittle, directors. Investors and homeseekers should address Mr. Payne.

Among industries that might find a foothold at Ontario are a planing mill (there are two lumber yards), a creamery, a brick yard, an ice plant, a cannery, a woolen mill and scouring plant, a cold storage plant, laundry and machine shop, electrical supplies and fruit driers. The opportunities for a desiccating plant, vegetables and fruit, and natural gas, are extraordinary.

E. B. Tremain, who came to Ontario last June from Fremont, Neb., says there is almost entire absence of the harsh winds and sudden changes that prevail in Nebraska. The hot weather of summer is not oppressive here as it is in Nebraska and the climate in winter is mild and free from storms.

Rader Bros. & Lampkin are here three years running a general mer-

chandise business. The Rader brothers are of German extraction, born merchants, and also conduct an exclusive shoe store in Boise. They came from Kansas to the Snake River country seven years ago, and have built up a large trade. Frank Rader, who is the genius of the firm, is a very optimistic booster for this section and has reason to be, for it has done very well by him. He says: "I like the climate and the people. The winters are far more even than in Kansas. That section of the United States seems to be at the very parting of the equinox, so to speak. When the winds are not blowing from the north they are blowing from the south, and my, how they do blow. We are free from those terrible winds here, and cyclones are unknown. We do have some warm weather in summer for a few weeks, but no hotter than any other place. We need warm weather to make this a corn and hog country. If you think we can't raise corn, go into our Commercial Club and see the samples."



THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IDAHO-OREGON CONGRESS