

# SILVERTON

IN  
1910





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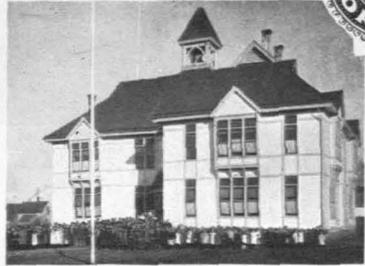
SILVERTON  
OREGON



An Orchard Vista in the Foothills near Silverton



Silverton High School



Graded School Building

*Silverton*

IN the heart of the Willamette Valley, forty-seven miles south-east of Portland, in a district embracing level fruit, grain, hay and hop lands, rolling fields and timber-covered foothills, lies the town of Silverton. It has a population of 2,000, one-half of which has been gained within the last three years. The tributary country is settled to some extent. There are large tracts available for cultivation, and the price at which land may be had is low in comparison with prices in less productive or more exploited localities. More homes are wanted in the Willamette Valley. In this booklet some details of the attractions, resources and advantages of Silverton are outlined, but it will require personal investigation to get reliable information of its wide range of products. The homeseeker from the east or the middle west will naturally want to look into conditions before deciding upon a location. With this idea in view, Silverton has prepared the accompanying message depicting some of the surroundings and telling of the results of soil cultivation. There is no exaggeration. Conditions are as represented. Intelligent cultivation of the soil brings rich return. Farming and fruit growing in Oregon are not experiments. The newcomer is given the benefit of years of experience of others. Neither is an Oregon farm a tract of 160 acres or more. Ten acres rightly cultivated will support a family and leave a margin. A careful reading of the booklet is asked.

*Additional and specific information on any subject pertaining to Silverton or to lands in the vicinity will be furnished upon application to the Secretary of the Commercial Club, Silverton, Oregon*

Group of Silverton Homes

Home of President Commercial Club





Orchard Showing Adaptability of Hills to Tree Planting



## SILVERTON, OREGON



What may be termed a second awakening in a district famed for half a century for the intense fertility of its soil is now in progress in the Willamette Valley of Western Oregon.

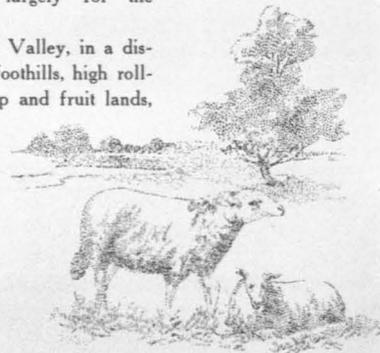
Although Westward migration turned to the Willamette Valley in the day of the prairie schooner and was followed in greater volume upon the completion of the trans-continental railways, so varied and so extensive are the resources of the country that many fields for endeavor are yet but partly developed.

It was on the broad, level lands of the Valley that the pioneers of Oregon first set the plow and brought forth wheat, oats, barley, hops, forage crops, small fruits and orchards. The foothills that flank the Valley on East and West, rich in the elements of soil that have given the Oregon apple and pear a world-wide reputation, were left largely for the activity of later generations.

In the heart of the Willamette Valley, in a district that embraces timber-covered foothills, high rolling fields, and level grain, hay, hop and fruit lands, lies Silverton, 47 miles southeast of Portland, on the Southern

Pacific railway, so situated that it has a maximum of diversity in resources.

Silverton, as a town, was known to the Oregon pioneer, but not the Silverton of today, for although old, as Far Western towns are classed, Silverton has seen its greatest growth and progress in three short years.



Young Apple Orchards in the Waldo Hills, South of Silverton

In three years the population of Silverton has doubled. Two causes have contributed to this growth—the development of the lumbering industry and the division into smaller tracts of the extensive level fields that spread out below the town. Both elements have brought new people into the district and have given opportunity for further growth and advancement.

With the logging of the foothills, lands such as in other localities of Oregon grow fruit of the color and flavor that command for it the highest prices in Eastern markets and bring wealth to the producer, are offered to those who wish to participate in this new awakening of Western Oregon.

Now is the beginning for Silverton of a repetition of the history of fruit growing in other localities of Oregon where land prices have advanced as much as one thousand per cent within a few years. The great opportunity offered lies in these facts—the necessary soil elements and climatic conditions are present and the land prices are comparatively low.

In comparing land prices it should be remembered that even in the localities where land prices are highest the land is worth the money asked. Oregon fruit has not attained its state of perfection alone because of the unexcelled conditions for production. Fruit growers' associations have been formed and a standard in packing, size and coloring of fruit established. The standard packs have brought the highest prices and have caused each grower to attempt to bring his product up to the standard. Scientific methods have been employed, success has followed, producers have become prosperous and the value of their lands has been fixed by the income derived from them.

Today is the beginning of a concerted effort in Silverton to standardize its fruit products. Fruit growers who will apply scientific methods to fruit growing, not speculators, are needed that the advantages in quality, packing and shipping that have built up other communities may be realized here.

Silverton's advantages may be better realized when it is told that stump land in this locality, similar to that which in older apple-growing districts of Oregon is now selling for \$100 per acre, may be purchased for from





Monarchs of the Hills



Camping in Forest



Giant Firs



Silver Creek Log Boom



A Silverton Lumber Yard

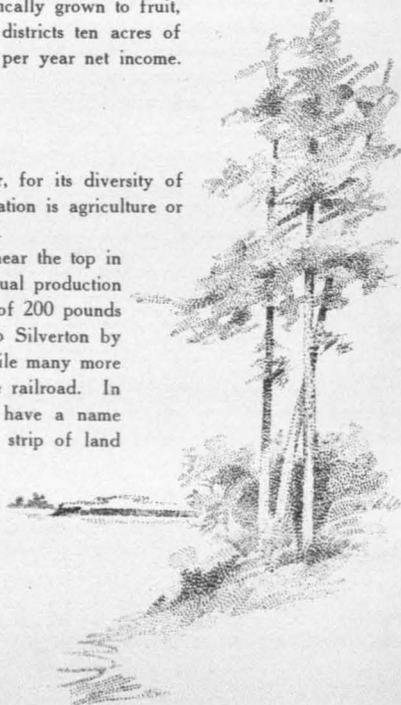
\$15 to \$25 per acre. Ten acres of Silverton lands, scientifically grown to fruit, will support a family in comfort. In other fruit growing districts ten acres of fruit land in full bearing have produced \$3,000 to \$6,000 per year net income. Silverton fruit lands can be made to do the same.

## Hops and Grain

The call of Silverton is not alone to the fruit grower, for its diversity of resources presents an opportunity for any one whose occupation is agriculture or who has a trend toward one of numerous industrial pursuits.

In a state famed for its hops, the Silverton district is near the top in point of production. Within a radius of five miles the annual production of hops is approximately 8,000 bales of an average weight of 200 pounds each. From the same scope of territory there is hauled to Silverton by wagon approximately 200,000 bushels of grain annually, while many more thousands of bushels find their way to warehouses along the railroad. In grain production the Waldo Hills, tributary to Silverton, have a name known throughout Oregon. In the Waldo Hills, a rolling strip of land 15 miles long and 10 to 12 miles wide, the average yield of oats is 60 to 70 bushels to the acre, and production has gone as high as 100 bushels to the acre. Wheat land in the Waldo Hills yields 25 to 60 bushels per acre.

Great as is the grain yield of the Waldo Hills, it is probable that more profit would be found in fruit growing. Numerous young orchards have been set out recently



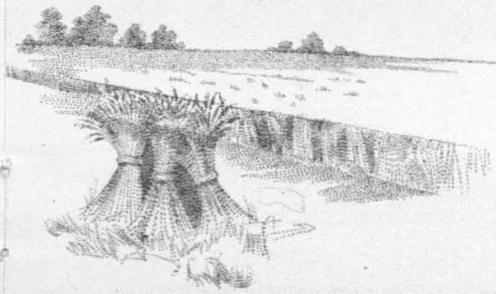
Small Valley in Foothills Near Silverton. Note Variety of Products—Fruit, Grain, Hay, Hops, Potatoes

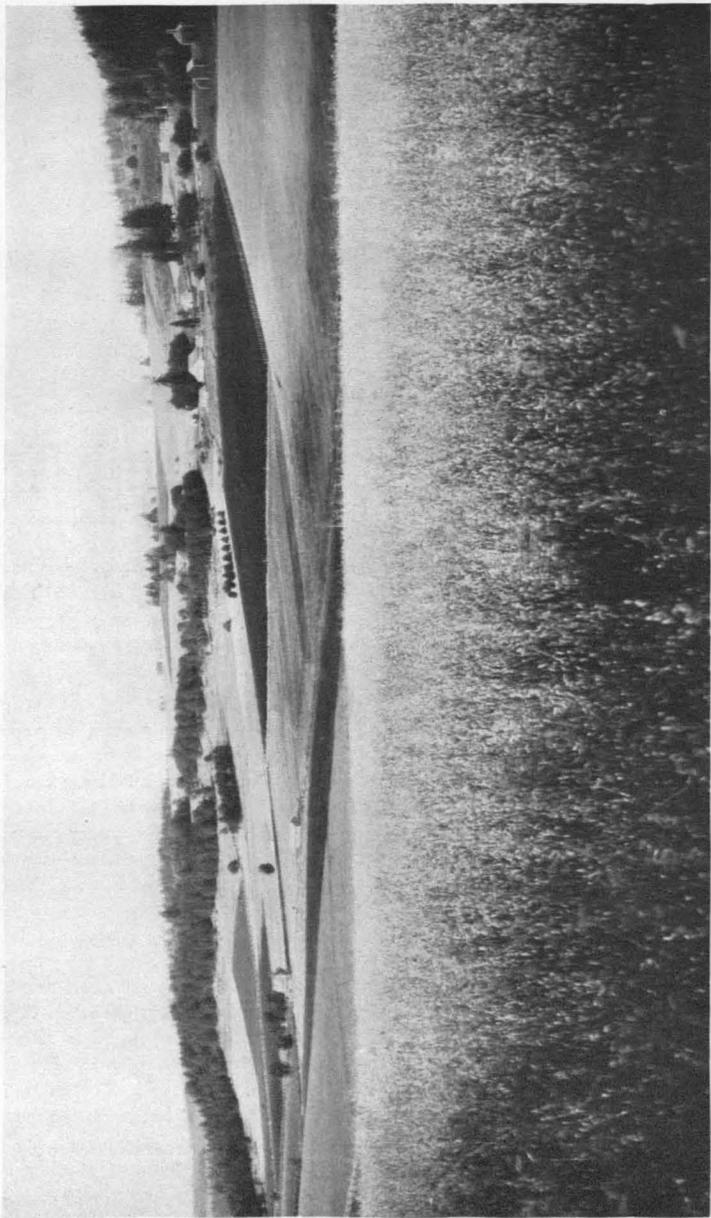
for commercial fruit growing, while the older home orchards are producing fruit of the Oregon standard of flavor and color. Improved lands in the Waldo Hills sell for from \$60 to \$75 per acre.

## Dairying

Dairying followed either exclusively or as an adjunct to other farm pursuits has marked advantages in the Silverton district. The Oregon demand for Oregon butter exceeds the supply. Portland creameries have established three routes in Silverton's tributary country, and a creamery located in the town furnishes another market. As illustrating the character of the market for dairy products it may be said that the best grade of creamery butter in the Portland market has commanded for six years wholesale prices that have exceeded the prices for similar butter in San Francisco or in the great dairying center of Elgin, Illinois. The average price of such butter during the last six years has been more than 4.5 cents above the price of extra fancy creamery butter on the Elgin market. In 1909

the lowest quoted prices on extra fancy creamery butter in the Portland market was 26 cents, and this for a short period in April. From 26 cents the prices ranged to 39 cents and averaged throughout the year more than 32 cents. The price paid the farmer for cream is one and one-half cents per pound of butter fat less than the selling price of butter in the Portland market.

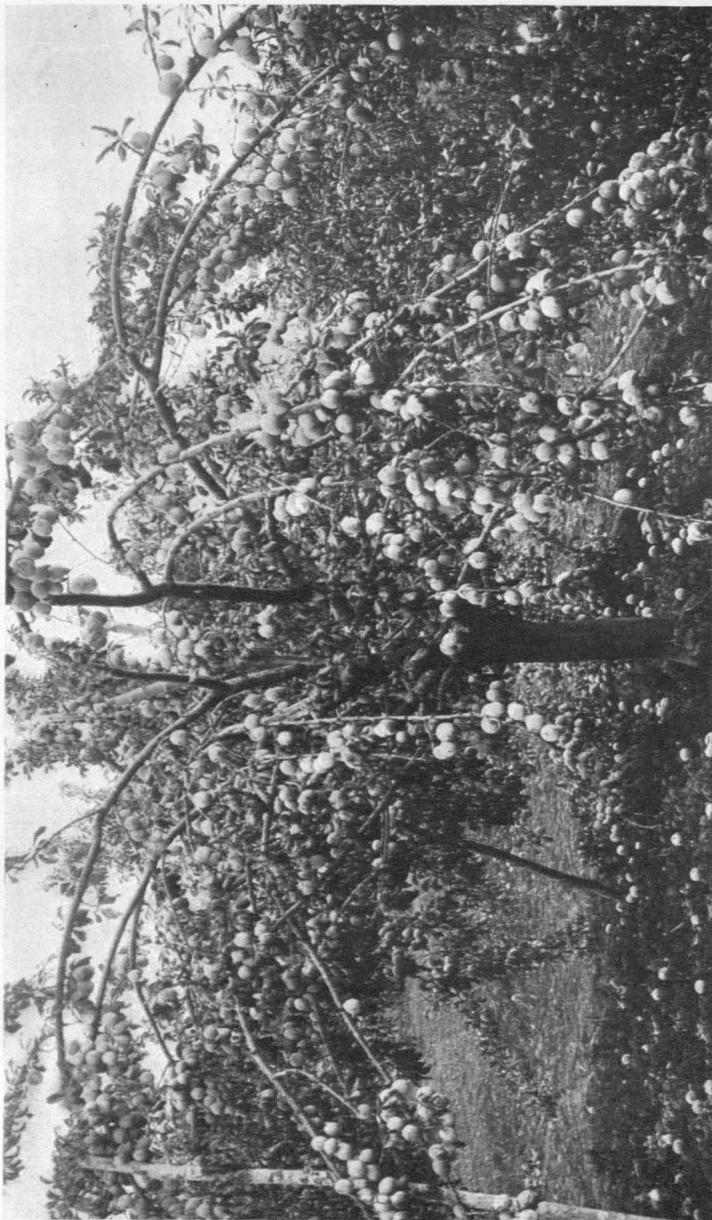




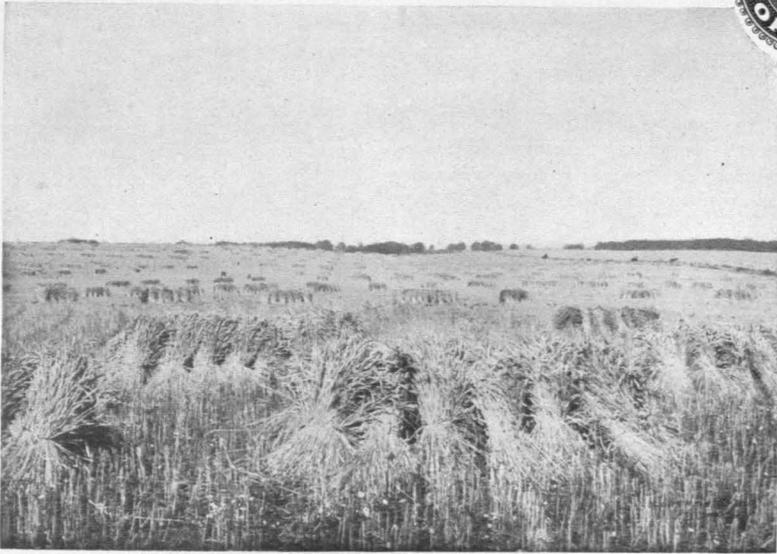
Grain Field Near Silverton. Thousands of Acres of Fertile Land lie Adjacent to the City



Hop Picking in one of the Many Fields near Silverton



Typical Plum Tree in Orchard near Silverton



Wheat in the Shock in Field Near Silverton

### Stock

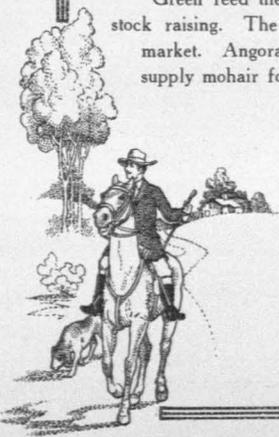
Pending the clearing of the stump land for fruit trees grazing is provided for stock in the Silverton foothills the year round, while in the bottom lands, vetch, clover, timothy and all kinds of hay and forage crops grow luxuriantly. As an adjunct to dairying, or in connection with general farming, hog raising is highly profitable and the market is never overstocked. Portland, for Oregon consumption, imports from other states more than \$500,000 worth of hog products annually, and the Puget Sound packers import more than \$1,000,000 worth. The stockyards in Portland during 1909 continuously paid prices for hogs in excess of those quoted in either Chicago or Omaha. For instance, when hogs were quoted at \$7.85 in Chicago and Omaha, in Portland they were quoted at \$8.10. The same thing was true of steers. When Chicago and Omaha paid \$7.25, Portland paid \$7.75.

### Sheep and Goats

Green feed the year round is the great advantage the Willamette Valley presents for stock raising. The industry here includes wool growing and production of mutton for market. Angora goats are used with profit in clearing the stump land of brush and supply mohair for which there is a steady demand.

### Truck Gardening

Silverton's proximity to the large markets of the Pacific Northwest will make truck farming always profitable. The development of this industry is shown in the recent settlement by numerous small colonies on 5 and 10-acre tracts near Silverton. Men of moderate means have acquired small plots, built modest homes and laid out truck gardens. The demand for day labor in the district exceeds the supply, and some of these small farmers work for others and build their homes and develop their lands in spare hours.





## Low Cost of Living

Here may be said a word on the cost of living to the man of small means. A few acres of land surrounding his home will supply his table. Due to the mild winters and the low cost of fuel one great drain on the purse of the man in colder climates is absent. Land may be obtained with an abundant supply of fuel on it for home consumption. From the lumber mills block wood may be obtained for \$2.10 per cord, delivered in town. Oak wood sells for \$3.50 per cord. He who wishes to build a residence, chicken house, barn or outbuilding can obtain No. 1 common lumber at the mills for \$10 per thousand feet, or less than one-third what the same quality of lumber costs at the mills of Wisconsin. The lumber bill for a house is about one-fourth what it is in the prairie states of the Middle West or in the East.



Flouring Mill. One of the Largest in Willamette Valley

## Poultry

Poultry raising is the profitable occupation of others in the Silverton territory. Numerous persons make it an exclusive occupation, and rare indeed is the small or large farmer who does not add to his yearly income from poultry. During the most prolific poultry period of the year the lowest wholesale egg price in the large markets is 16 cents per dozen and from that figure the price ranges up to 40 cents in the rainy season.

## Diversity of Resources

In the limits of this booklet only a few details of the attractions of Silverton may be given, but the wide range of products may be realized when it is told that it includes barley, wheat, oats, corn, vetch, alfalfa, timothy, clover, potatoes, onions, celery, asparagus, peas, beans, spinach, carrots, squash, pumpkins, turnips, apples, pears, peaches, grapes, plums, prunes, cherries, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, Loganberries, walnuts, filberts and any other thing that can be produced in a temperate climate.

Silverton lands grown to potatoes produce an average of 200 bushels to the acre. Silverton lands have produced two crops of strawberries in one season and supplied fruit as late as November. Silverton is in the heart of Cherry Land, and grows to perfection the famous Royal Annes that have given Salem, the capital of Oregon, the name of "Cherry City." Near Silverton are prune orchards returning yearly profits that should serve to attract others to devoting lands to prune growing.

Wolf Block, Silverton



Also inviting is the opportunity for walnut and filbert growing. What is commercially known as the English walnut produces prolifically large, full-meated fruit that always finds a ready market and remunerative prices.





Coolidge & McClain Bank, Silverton



The People's Bank, Silverton

## Silverton

Silverton, the town, now has about 2,000 inhabitants, half of whom have settled in the community within three years. The town lies principally at the mouth of a narrow valley formed by Silver Creek, from which it takes its name. The stream rises in the foothills and after a turbulent course begins within the town a quiet flow across the level floor of the Willamette Valley to join the larger stream. Attractive, modern homes dot the higher lands on each side of the stream and from there an inspiring view is obtained of valley, hills and snow clad mountains.

Silver Creek furnishes water power which drives a *flouring mill of 250 barrels daily capacity*, a planing mill and the pumps that lift pure water to hillside reservoirs and give the town its domestic supply. One water fall farther up the stream develops 300 horsepower, which is applied to the development of electric current and which in connection with a steam plant at Salem supplies lights for Silverton, Salem, Mt. Angel and Woodburn.

In Abaqua Creek, a larger stream than Silver Creek, and but a few miles away, is large unapplied water power that will be available for Silverton's manufacturing enterprises when developed.

In Silverton are three lumber mills. The largest, the Silverton Lumber Co., cuts 100,000 feet of lumber daily, employs 100 men in the mill, another 100 men in the woods and 60 along its logging road. It has a payroll of \$15,000 per month. Its railroad, now nine miles long, follows the Abaqua and is being extended as needed. Railroad contractors have 100 more men at work on construction, which will be continued for several years. As the lands are logged off and used for fruit growing and stock raising other traffic than log carrying is developing this railroad into a permanent common carrier. The Abaqua is the natural outlet for the timber of the Abaqua basin, a tract of two solid townships, on which stands enough timber to keep a mill of 100,000 feet daily capacity operating steadily for 200 years. This great

Representative Business Block

Silverton's Opera House





Churches in Silverton

body of timber will probably all find its way to mills down the Abaqua, and much of it will be cut in Silverton.

The Abaqua Mill Co. operates a smaller plant employing 50 men in mill and camps, and the J. G. Lais mill is operating with 50 to 60 men all told.

In addition to the Fisher Flouring Mills, with a capacity of 250 barrels daily, operated by water power, the Loughmiller steam plant is located in Silverton, with a capacity of 50 barrels daily.

Some of Silverton's business buildings have been constructed of Silverton-made brick. The town has excellent educational advantages. A high school building, built of brick and cement at a cost of \$35,000 three years ago, has three teachers and 100 students. An eight-room graded school building has eight teachers and an enrollment of 360. The Methodist, Christian, Free Lutheran, Lutheran Synod and United Lutheran denominations have churches in Silverton, and the Catholics are planning the erection of a \$25,000 church. Four miles north of Silverton is Mt. Angel college and monastery, one of the oldest, largest and best known Catholic institutions in the West.

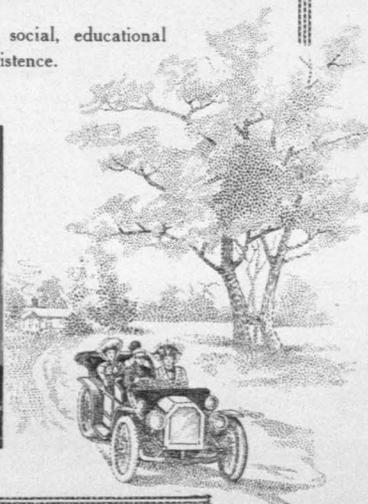
Silverton's climate is equable throughout the year. The summer temperature rarely exceeds 85 degrees and the winter temperature seldom goes below 26 degrees above zero. Some winters pass without snowfall, gentle rains taking the place of the rigors of the Eastern climate.

Many outing and hunting attractions are provided. On Silver Creek, within a stretch of two miles, are nine water falls, at one of which the water plunges over a granite cliff to a basin 184 feet below. Roads have been built along the stream and the falls may be reached by wagon or automobile.

There is deer hunting in the foothills, Chinese pheasant shooting in the fields, duck shooting on nearby lakes, and trout fishing in the streams.

In short, here is found opportunity combined with the social, educational and healthful advantages that go to make up a harmonious existence.

Churches in Silverton





Logging in Mountains. Lumber Ready for Shipment



A Typical Diversified Farming Scene Near Silverton

# SILVERTON

Is in the Heart  
 of the Great  
 Willamette Valley,  
 Richest Farming,  
 Stock raising and  
 Fruit Growing  
 section of the  
 Pacific Northwest.  
 An ideal divers-  
 ified farming  
 locality

