

Teton Valley's Growing Prospects for the Future

THE beautiful and fertile Teton valley lies in the eastern part of Fremont county, Idaho, about 25 miles north of Salt Lake City, along the boundaries of the Idaho-Wyoming state line. The average elevation is 6,000 feet. It is about 35 miles in length and 15 miles in width, with a gradual slope to the center from either side, surrounded by mountains, resembling Salt Lake valley, with its Teton river, like the Jordan, running towards the north. There is an abundance of water. In fact, no valley anywhere could be better supplied, and easy of access. The land is rich and productive, and there is a vast area of stock and sheep range surrounding the valley on every side, and an unlimited supply of timber within easy reach. It is an excellent dairying country; the luscious grasses of the valley as well as the rolling hills adjacent are noted and commented upon by stock and sheep raisers, and creameries pay the highest market price for butter fat.

The soil and climate make it especially adapted for the production of the finest vegetables and small fruits that excel any country for the quantity and fine quality. Apples, pears, cherries, plums and other fruits are also raised successfully, but there are not many orchards old enough yet to bear.

It is the natural country for oats, none better raised anywhere, and is well adapted for the raising of wheat, especially fall planting; it is the wheat country for timothy and clover, and alfalfa yields heavy crops. There are about 125,000 acres of land susceptible to cultivation and irrigation, and about 25,000 acres along Teton river, which would make a great dairy proposition, with wild meadow grass and clusters of shade and sparkling streams of water, making it a paradise for cows; there are also about 250,000 acres of land in the aggregate, of which there are about 50,000 acres now under cultivation.

The grain yield runs from 40 to 90 bushels per acre, and about 750,000 bushels were raised last year, about 20 per cent of this being wheat. More wheat would be raised if Teton had a flour mill, which is now one of the greatest necessities, and would be a fine opening in that line for some enterprising miller. The mercantile club, as well as other citizens stand ready to start this enterprise, and will no doubt soon get the miller. The hay is the main crop now, because of lack of transportation facilities, as that product can be consumed in the home market. There was about 35,000 tons of hay raised the past season. There are about 100,000 head of sheep and about 25,000 head of cattle owned in the valley.

TOWN OF DRIGGS.
The present population of the valley is about 4,000, in eight wards. The principal town is Driggs, which lies in the center of the valley. B. W. Driggs, Jr., M. W. Taylor, and D. C. Driggs, Jr. are the first of Utah people to come in and explore the country, in 1888, and in applying for a postoffice to be established here, the department gave the office the name of Driggs. It is now becoming quite a progressive town, and has doubled in population the last year. On the 7th of December, 1909, steps were taken to incorporate as a village, and D. C. Driggs, H. L. Crandall, J. D. Killpack, A. C. Miner and J. H. Fuller have been named as the trustees; it soon expects to don its new dress. One new hotel is just being finished, of about 30 rooms, and another to be constructed in the near future.

Driggs is not only the center of business but of education, and students from all over the valley are now taking advantage of the high school which was started last fall, and not only the high school but the district schools have an excellent corps of efficient teachers. The district will erect another two story stone school building next year.

The other towns that are forging to the front and increasing in population and business enterprises are Victor, Haden and Clawson; and with the advent of the railroad these will grow like magic. Many of the wards are constructing and have in contemplation new and modern church buildings, and the one nearing completion in Bates is a credit to that ward but enterprising ward. A new townsite has been platted for the Pratt ward and a good many lots are being sold, so that one may look for a new town there soon.

THE RAILROAD COMING.
Surveys were completed last fall, and the construction of the Short Line branch from Ashton to Driggs will begin as soon as weather conditions are favorable. The directors have passed upon this and everything is assured as to its immediate construction in the spring. Recently two or three traffic men were in the valley gathering statistics, and they were more than pleased with the possibilities of Teton valley. They will also no doubt run a spur to the extensive coal mines in the west mountains, where the quality of coking and heating coal. The mines now supply not only this valley, but hundreds of teams are hauling it to the Snake River valley below.

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Three Flourishing Sheep Concerns
Heber Land & Live Stock Co., Austin Bros., Assn., and Austin & Sons Live Stock Co.

FEW people, even right here at home have the faintest conception of the immensity of the sheep industry of Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada. Millions are invested in these most profitable of the four-footers; hundreds of thousands of dollars in profit are taken annually from wool, mutton and in sales at large. And yet it is an extremely hazardous business; the profits of ten years may be wiped out in one off year; accordingly profits much above the average in business must be assured in good years to induce capital to invest.

A few days ago a News reporter interviewed our local wool king, "said he: "But it is a risky business just the same. Along with business ability it seems necessary to have a bit of that rare quality called 'luck' to be a really successful sheep owner. But present prospects are decidedly encouraging. Wool at present brings 20 to 25 cents; clips are heavy; ewes worth from \$5 to \$7 apiece; mutton at top-notch, and breeding seasons favorable. It's a great industry; I may say the most profitable of all in good years, but in bad years the losses are appalling.

"I would say not less than 2,500,000 head were sheared this last season in Utah," he went on. "That means a clip of 14,000,000 pounds; worth from 15 to 25 cents; total valuation near \$3,500,000. The sheep themselves are worth four times that sum.

"The Wyoming clip this year amounted to 35,000,000 pounds, some 5,000,000 head having been sheared in that state.

"Idaho sheared some 3,500,000 head, the total clip probably 35,000,000 pounds.

"Nevada's clip is about 7,000,000 pounds, taken from the backs of 900,000 sheep.

"Not less than three-quarters of this great total wool clip goes into Boston, the hub of the American wool industry. The other 25 per cent is divided between St. Louis, Chicago and Philadelphia. The total United States wool clip for 1909 will amount to 300,000,000 pounds. A thing surprising in that our country great as it is has to import an equal amount of foreign wools for mixture with our native wool, fabric requirements making this imperative. In the course of years those necessary foreign grades should, and no doubt will, be raised here at home.

"In spite of the great profits accruing in this industry, success is not easy of attainment. Where one man succeeds, another fails. It requires shrewd judgment, careful management to succeed even in a small way. And when it comes to handling flocks aggregating tens of thousands, scattered over hundreds of miles of territory; critical weather conditions to be met; ample range or feed over to be supplied and in immense quantities; the



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The social conditions are excellent, as Teton has as fine a lot of people as any community. Jackson Hole is tributary to the Teton state, and residents there have set the pace in the way of Church buildings. Though few in number they have erected a nice modern brick church and furnished it up to date.

Teton is adjacent to the greatest game preserve in America, where thousands of elk, deer, moose and the antelope abound. They are now coming down into the valley for forage, and having been fed on hay to some extent during the severest weather in the past the animals are now looking for their winter feasts, and the state is taking the matter in hand to provide some hay for them.

KILLPACK & EVANS.
Killpack & Evans have the largest and best list of farm and ranch lands in the Upper Snake River valley, and control about 30,000 acres of Idaho's best and most fertile soil, ranging in price from \$25 to \$50 per acre, improved and unimproved irrigated lands, some of an excellent quality of coking and heating coal. The mines now supply not only this valley, but hundreds of teams are hauling it to the Snake River valley below.

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Growth in Prosperous Salina

THE First State Bank of Salina is located in Sevier county, but there are many accounts carried on its ledgers from people throughout the county and southern Utah.

The bank continues to grow, and through careful and conservative methods, its business is that of soundness and security. It furnishes the best facilities for collections and drafts to all parts of the world and sells its exchange at the very minimum rate.

September 3, 1907, marked the opening of this institution. At that time N. E. Snell was president; J. W. Phillips, vice president and A. V. Hulsh, cashier; A. J. Lewis, E. E. Hoffman and Chris Jorgenson, directors.

After a few months' time, J. W. Phillips sold his stock, whereupon A. J. Lewis was appointed as vice president. In the spring of 1909 N. E. Snell was transferred from his position at Salina, superintendent of the forest service, to a similar position at Idaho Falls, whereupon A. J. Lewis, in a regular meeting of the stockholders of the bank held June 14, 1909, was elected president with W. H. Brown, vice president. The directorate was raised from five to seven members as follows: A. J. Lewis, president; W. H. Brown, vice president; Charles Lammerdorf, Chris Jorgenson, Dr. M. A. Preece, P. C. Scrup, and James A. Ross. A. V. Hulsh was re-appointed by the directors as cashier, and Eugene Christensen, assistant cashier.

At the close of business Oct. 15, 1909 the following excellent showing was made:

RESOURCES.
Loans and discounts \$8,056.44
Overdrafts 2,457.35
Banking house, furniture, fixtures, etc 3,386.70
Due from National banks 9,553.30

CRABS THAT LIVE IN TREES.

By far the most numerous, and in their way the most interesting, of the mangrove's inhabitants were the crabs. There were untold millions of them, all small, all active and keen of vision. If we sat quietly they would appear from everywhere, peeping out like little gnomes from their perches on the mangroves, forever playing their noiseless little fiddles. These tiny treefolk not only played, but danced. Let us picture a scene constantly enacted so close to us that we could all but touch the performers. Two crabs approach each other, now fiddling vigorously, now waving their diminutive pinners back and forth over their heads as a ballet dancer waves her arms. They move never in straight lines, but sideways, now running back a few steps, now forward, until at last they meet, and each grasping the other's claws, raises them aloft, and then for five minutes they circle about in most ludicrous imitation of a waltz. All this usually took place on the lower surface of a mangrove trunk, the inverted position apparently making no less secure the footing of the little dancers. We could not discover whether this performance was in the nature of courtship or defiance or just pure play.

What we did discover concerning the lives of these crabs was full of interest. Hundreds of the smallest sized ones lived in holes in the mud, and when the tide went out they came out and ran about, intent on some all-important business of their little existence. Another class of larger individuals had their holes near the roots of the mangroves, or on rarely two good-sized crabs apparently taking possession of each root. Here he disported himself, running up and down from the water into the air, with no change in speed, and here, stranger of all, he grew to resemble his home root. There was as great diversity among the roots as among the larger trunks—whitish, black, mottled and all intervening shades. It was a fact, of which we had hundreds of daily proofs, that the crabs were so like their particular roots that often we could not detect the quiescent crustacean when within a foot of our faces. There was one group of five black roots forming a rough circle about a single mottled root. As we approached a crab ran down each stalk into the water, and as we peered down and saw them go into their holes we could at a glance tell the mottled crab from the five black ones. Even the roots which were as yet a foot or more above the bottom mud each had its occupant, which thus had to swim upward from his hole before he could grasp his swaying perch.

A third class of crabs lived among the higher trunks and branches of the mangroves, and except where here and there was a highroad of some large trunk dipping into the water, these less fortunate fellows had to scamper in frantic haste up the roots of their larger brethren. The indignant owner would rush at the trespasser with uplifted pinners, sometimes forcing him to leap for his life—C. W. Beebe in Harper's Magazine.

The success of the Austin companies has been truly remarkable. Only a few years ago Thomas and John Austin were poor boys. They started out herding sheep for others at \$15 a month. A little while, and they were tending flocks on shares. After learning the details of the business presently each had a small flock of his own. A few years, and these had multiplied into many flocks. No man now understood the business better than they, they had mastered every detail. So accurate is their judgment they can tell the weight of a sheep within a pound or two by merely looking at it.

Six years ago, George Austin, Thomas R. Cutler and George A. Smith, all well known Salt Lake business men, were taken in, and the two big associations formed, the new members bringing with them considerable capital, conservative judgment, and splendid executive ability. Thus the volume of business was materially increased, and things went into on a more extensive scale. Later the third company was formed, and A. M. Austin made manager, and though a young man, he has shown superior ability in that capacity. George Austin's conservative qualities added much to the strength of the associations, while George A. Smith as secretary and treasurer of all the companies has proven an invaluable man for this important position.

All in all, such institutions as the Austin companies are a credit to the State of Utah, and well deserve their truly phenomenal success.

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Driggs Furniture & Music Co

Furniture Dept. D. C. Driggs Mgr. Music Dept. J. F. Griggs Mgr. DRIGGS, IDAHO

Fifteen months has proved our reliability and won for us merited popularity.

We carry a complete line of the noted Estey organs, McPhail and Waltham Pianos, Edison phonographs and records, and the new Royal Sewing machines.

In our furnishings department will soon be found the famous Roberts-Johnson-Rand Shoes—and we are agents for the Lukone Tailoring Co. of Chicago.

WATCH FOR OUR OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT.
MARCH 1, 1910—CASH BUSINESS ONLY.
WE GUARANTEE GOOD GOODS.

Driggs State Bank

DRIGGS, IDAHO.

Capital - - - - - \$75,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits - \$ 2,637.50

Condensed Statement of Condition July 15, 1909.

Annual Stockholders' Meeting.

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
Loans and Discounts \$54,386.17	Capital Stock \$15,000.00
Building, Furniture and Fixtures 5,694.19	Surplus and und. profits 2,637.50
Cash & due from Banks 25,702.30	Deposits subj. to check 53,413.70
Total \$85,782.66	Time deposits 14,480.00
	Cashier's Checks 251.65
	Total \$85,782.66

Increase of Deposits

Since the Opening of the Bank.

July 1906 \$7,865.00
July 1907 \$45,213.13
July 1908 \$46,468.44
July 1909 \$68,150.35

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W. Wm. Taylor, President; Ray C. Kimball, Vice President; Don C. Driggs, Cashier; C. Cherrington, Asst. Cashier.

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Established 1878. Capacity 150

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An Efficient Staff of

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