

# Payette and Its Wonderful Valley

## No Section of Great Gem State Offers Better Inducements to Orchardists and Home Seekers

THE wonderful Payette valley has been truthfully termed "the flower of irrigated Idaho." The Payette river is the largest tributary received by the Snake in all the 500 miles from the junction of the

rounding country. Its record is one to be proud of.  
SPLENDID Y. M. C. A.  
One of the things which shows the true spirit of progression in Payette was the liberality with which over

somest public schools in Idaho. It is likewise the proud boast of Payette that every section of the city is in the shadow of a church spire. In this same connection every leading fraternal organization is represented.

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The people of Payette valley, in fine live near to nature's heart, and the industry of its farmers makes all the country side throb with their intelligent clearing, grooming and cultivation of the ground. And not only fruit, vegetables, grain and stock, but money grows there in abundance. It is heartening, indeed, to see these things where but a few years since there was but an inhospitable, sagebrush desert, but where new giant enterprises are now born almost daily and unfold rapidly until they flower into splendid successes.

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It was this enterprising railroader who actually saw to the construction of the road and personally supervised every mile of its actual construction. All his life Mr. Dunn has been a railroad man, and his years of service with the Oregon Short Line railroad stood him in good standing when he assumed the difficult task of actual railroad construction on his own hook.

Another individual who was largely responsible for the construction of this railroad is Mr. A. B. Moss, than whom there is no more public spirited citizen in the entire Payette valley district. Mr. Moss, besides his duties as president of the First National bank of Payette and head of the Moss Mercantile company, finds time to act as treasurer of this railroad.

The president and secretary of the road are respectively C. W. Nibley and F. S. Murphy of Salt Lake City.

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The Payette Valley Real Estate Agen-

## Payette Apples Invariably Bring the Highest Prices in Competition in Eastern Markets.

The officers of the agency are A. E. Wood, manager; A. S. Soule, treasurer, and J. A. Harader, secretary.

E. A. Johnson conducts a general real estate, fire insurance and farm loan business. He is a young man and is thoroughly informed upon every matter of interest to intending investors.

**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**  
No single enterprise is conducted along larger lines in Payette than the T. & K. Milling company, limited, which has a daily capacity of 100 barrels. This mill employs a large number of men and is one of the largest in the valley. Thomas & Klinger, proprietors, are likewise interested in milling in other sections of the Gem state.

Still another great industry lately inaugurated in Payette is the Payette Fruit Packing company, which is most ably managed by Mr. Harris. Interested in this concern are numerous local growers and the shipments are among the largest in the valley.

**WATER IN PLENTY.**  
The fertile Payette valley has threefold more water for irrigation than can ever be used. One-half of all the fruit shipped out of the state of Idaho is shipped from this valley. Seeing is believing. One has but to get off the Oregon Short Line railroad at this wonderful city and make a trip up this great valley. This can be accomplished by taking a train on the Payette valley railroad.

**BEAUTIFUL FRUITLAND.**

Fruitland is a townsite situated in the heart of the famous valley. It has a very bright future. Packing houses have been erected and many store buildings are occupied. This site is ideal for a city and the Western Idaho Sugar company has a splendid automatic beet dump at this point. On every side of Fruitland the eye is greeted by slightly orchards and fields and long stretches of sugar beet acreage.

The present terminus of the Payette Valley railroad is New Plymouth, a lively place which has taken on new life since the building of the railroad. New Plymouth is a town of great promise; its future is bright. It is a town laid out and built after the ideals of a band of pilgrims who came to the Payette valley a number of years ago from Chicago. They were people who had grown tired of the turmoil and rush of the big city, of the crowded streets and stifling air, and who came west in search of an ideal spot on which to build an ideal city.

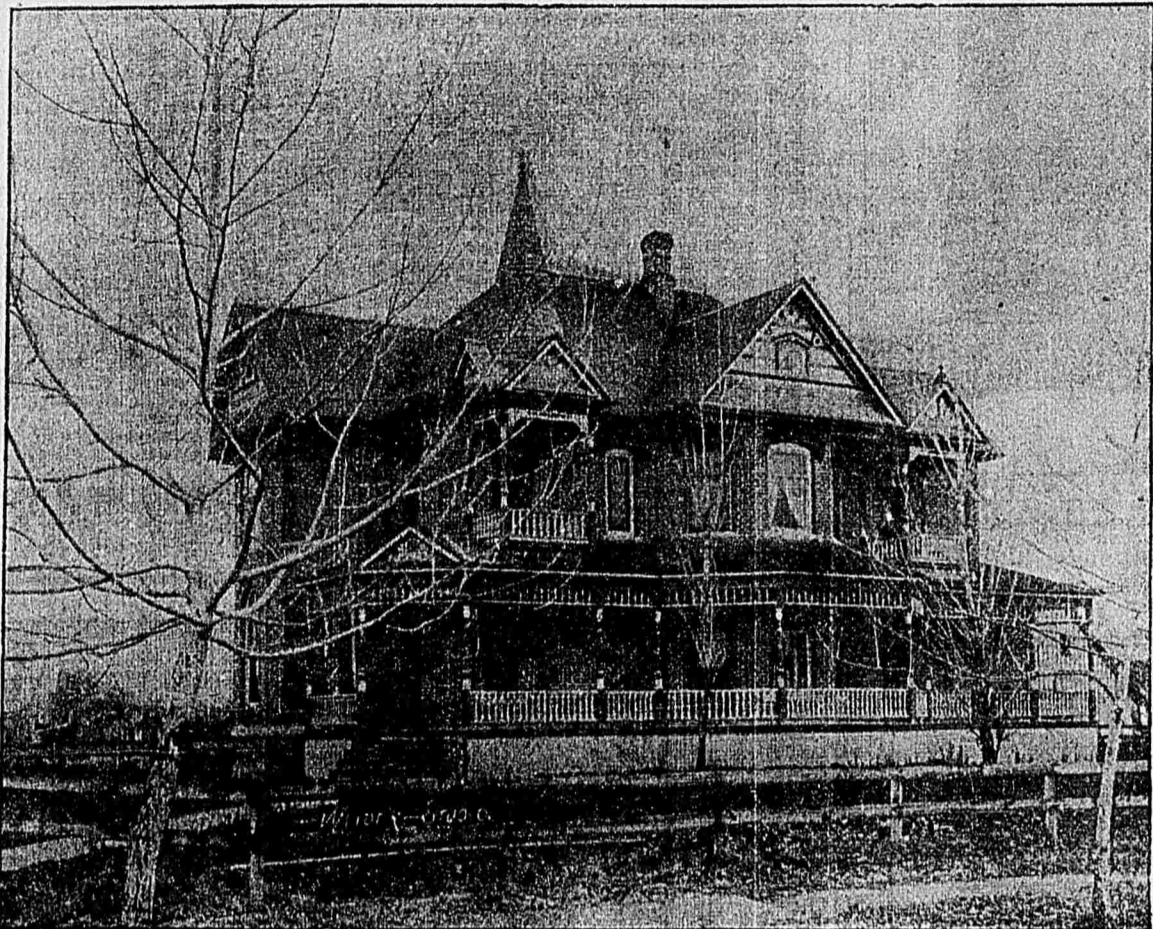
**NEW PLYMOUTH GROWING.**  
They came to the Payette valley and New Plymouth is the beginning of the fulfillment of their dreams. The town now has three general merchandise stores, one cold storage plant, one fruit evaporator, one hardware, one drug store, lumber yard, livery stable, meat market, hotel, jewelry store, millinery store, blacksmith shop, livery barn, photo studio, barber shop, paint and oil store, two churches—Congregational and Catholic—bank and two substantial brick school buildings, one of which cost \$5,000 and the other \$2,000. At present its population consists of about 300 people. It will draw much from the Payette-Boise irrigation project, which is being built by the government. There is plenty of land left in the Payette valley which can be purchased for from \$35 per acre up, in-

cluding perpetual water right, and this same land when improved in orchard, melon or beet growing land will be worth from \$200 to \$1,000 an acre.

**COMMERCIAL CLUB.**  
Nowhere in the Gem state is there maintained a more progressive commercial club than in Payette. Its membership includes all the progressive business and professional men of the city and spacious rooms are maintained. Just at present the club through its secretary is engaged in securing accurate data from farmers with the end in view to issuing a booklet on the Payette valley telling about its wonders. It is a certainty if you read it when it is issued, you will desire to know more about Payette and the valley.

**OIL AND GAS AT PAYETTE.**  
One of the future important developments of Idaho and one which promises to make the Payette Valley still richer is that of oil and gas. Oil and gas have already been struck in Payette and operations are now in progress which will ultimately mean cheap manufacturing and lighting power for the city.

**WHAT PAYETTE HAS.**  
A mild and healthful climate, and good drinking water.  
Good brick business houses, splendid shade trees, beautiful lawns, elegant homes and a contented people.  
An altitude of 2,147 feet.  
A mean average temperature of 55 degrees.  
An annual precipitation of about 11 inches.  
Three hundred fair days and 260 sunny days in the year.  
A population of 8,500.  
Ten churches.  
Twelve fraternal societies.  
A modern creamery.  
A \$20,000 depot.  
A \$15,000 Y. M. C. A.  
The largest cannery factory in the state.  
A saw mill, with a capacity of 100,000 feet per day.  
A fruit dryer and five packing houses, employing 500 people.  
First prizes, not including livestock, Pears—Howell, D. Clargeau, B. D. Anjos, Duchesne, Lawrence, Captain J. H. Shawhan.  
Apples—Wagoner, Blue Pearmain, J. H. Shawhan, Spitzberg, Nonesuch, Baltimore Red, B. F. Tussing, Bellow-er, C. V. Mitchell, Missouri Pippin, Grant Fisher, King's Pride, O. M. Trotter, Round Sweet, P. H. Brown, Arkansas Black, Charles Dual, Baldwin, Santa Rosa Orchard company, Gano, C. P. Jensen, Jonathan, F. H. Supple, Ben Davis, T. O. Ady.  
Prunes—Largest prunes, Payette Fruit Packing company, best pack and best display, Payette Fruit Packing company.  
Comb honey and beeswax, C. E. Dible.  
Dry raspberries, M. B. Sherman, Strawberries, S. Clanton.  
Box largest apples, Payette Fruit Packing company.  
Best display of apples, Payette Fruit Packing company.  
Largest squash, C. W. Williams.  
Onions, A. H. Garside.  
Barley, E. A. Wood.  
Stalk Corn, John McGillichy.  
Clover, L. M. Lake.  
Wheat, Elbert Johnson.  
Citron, J. E. Pinkerton.  
Corn in ear, W. M. Johnson.  
Watermelon, J. C. Carroll.  
Winter watermelon, George Sloneker.  
Sugar beets, N. W. Lewis.  
Second prizes, not including livestock:  
Watermelons, J. C. Carroll.  
Corn in the ear, John McGillichy.  
Apples—M. Black Twigg, Wagoner Spitzberg, J. H. Shawhan, Acheon Red, C. W. Young, Gano, F. W. Green, York Imperial, C. W. Young, Missouri Pippin, C. W. Young, Ben Davis, B. F. Tussing, Jonathan, H. Harland, Grimes Golden, Mills Bros., Rome Beauty, B. F. Tussing, Newtown Pippin, Santa Rosa Orchard company, Arkansas Black, T. O. Ady, H. Nonesuch, Santa Rosa Orchard company; Tompkins County Kings, Santa Rosa Orchard company; King's Pride, O. M. Trotter; Wolf River, S. B. Alsop.  
Pears—B. Clargeau, Howell, Duchesne, Lawrence, J. H. Shawhan; Schell, Grant Fisher.



RESIDENCE OF HON. A. B. MOSS, ONE OF PAYETTE'S LOYAL BOOSTERS.

North and South forks in Fremont county to the mouth of the Salmon.

It is at the point where the river, with its constant and heavy flow joins the Snake that the handsome and rapidly growing city of Payette, the entrance, the front door as it were, to all the great fertile valley, is situated.

**THOUSANDS OF BROAD ACRES.**  
But the territory tributary to Payette is by no means confined to the Payette valley, for both above and below the city, on either side of the Snake, stretch out thousands upon thousands of broad acres, most of which are now under cultivation, and considerably more of which will soon be reclaimed by irrigating enterprises.

Such wonderful strides have been made within the last few months that it is practically certain that Payette's population will exceed the 5,000 mark before January, 1910. The real thing that at once impresses the stranger is its solid, substantial appearance, practically all of the business buildings on the principal streets being of brick and well constructed.

**MANY BUSINESS HOUSES.**  
Payette has a very large number of business houses, and every one of its stores would do credit to any city in Idaho. Payette has fine schoolhouses, numerous churches, planing mills, canning factories, fruit evaporators, creameries, fruit packing stations and other enterprises in keeping with its many resources.

Payette too, is most admirably situated to benefit from the immense timber resources of the upper branches of the river, as the logs can be floated down the river at very slight expense.

**FRUIT BRINGS FAME.**  
The Payette valley is justly famous for the excellent quality and enormous yields of fruit. It was the fruit from this valley that won the \$500 loving cup presented by former United States Senator W. A. Clark of Montana for the Gem state at the irrigation congress at Ogden, in 1903. The exhibit presented then was by far the best offered from any irrigated state in the United States. For last year and this year, Idaho fruit brought higher average prices in the eastern markets than fruit from any other state.

The altitude of this section is about 2,200 feet and the climate is ideal the year through. Sunshine can be counted on 300 days in the year and there is little wind to be contended with. Such things as destructive storms are unknown throughout the Payette valley.

**CITY OWNS WATERWORKS.**  
Payette owns its own waterworks system and electric light is furnished by a company controlled entirely by local capital. Aside from this fact local ditch propositions for supplying water to the immediate vicinity are maintained, thus affording splendid opportunity at nominal cost to the small fruit raiser to prosecute the higher artistic cultivation of apples and cantaloupes for the ever eager eastern market.

Here in Payette are maintained extensive lumber mills and large flour mills operated by the wonderful supply of water from the majestic Payette river. Canneries in the interest of fruit packing are plentiful and one of the largest in the state is maintained by Payette capital pure and simple. Besides fruits this establishment cans tomatoes and peas for shipment.

One of the very important enterprises of Payette is controlled almost exclusively by farmers of the sur-

\$25,000 was subscribed in record-breaking time for the construction of a large Y. M. C. A. building. The structure is under roof and practically ready for use. It is thoroughly modern in every respect and is rated as one of the finest structures of its kind in Idaho. The building contains room for women and a large general lobby for men. In a few words, it is especially adapted to the needs of the community.

**NO FICTION HERE.**  
When the story is told of the growth, the wealth and the possibilities of the famous Payette valley it sounds unreal in the ears of strangers, the bald facts sound like the stories of the richness of the promised land. But all that is needed is a single visit to the valley and the truth speaks for itself. From five to 40 acres of land will enable any industrious man to make money. Crops never fail; water shortage is impossible; apples, prunes, peaches, pears, cherries, nectarines and all kinds of vegetables grow there to perfection.

It is in this great valley that the Payette cantaloupe is grown—the famous netted cantaloupe that has gained a national reputation for its deliciousness. Most of this delicious fruit goes to Chicago and New York markets. The fruits grown in the Payette valley are rapidly making Idaho famous. On every side are great orchards of beautiful red apples, whose flavor and perfection win favor wherever shown. Payette, Fruitland and New Plymouth have packing houses located on the line of the railroad where hundreds of cars of fruit are received from the farmer and fruit grower and shipped in carloads direct to the great eastern and foreign cities. Winter apples do well and pay large profits. The trees come into bearing at five or six years, and from that time the crop is assured for every succeeding year.

**CLIMATIC CONDITIONS.**  
The climate in the Payette valley must not be forgotten in considering its virtues. It is an important factor because of its delightfulness. The land that is broadened into the fertile valley of the Payette is warmed in the summer by a sun that does not fatigue one by its intense heat, but which imparts to the growing fruits and grains the life producing substance that makes them thrive beyond all expectation. Little or no thunder occurs during the summer season. Cyclones, tornadoes and sunstroke are unknown. Flooding commences February 1. Sheep men turn their sheep out on the ranges between February 20 and March 1. The fall season is delightful and little or no wind blows at any season of the year.

Payette proper is 66 miles from Boise, the state capital, 490 miles from Salt Lake City, 433 miles from Portland, Or., and Butte, Mont., is only 552 miles distant.

**SPLENDID BUILDINGS.**  
The city's business thoroughfares are flanked with solid and ornate brick structures, for the most part, and are bordered with broad cement sidewalks. The streets of the residential portion of Payette are fringed with matured hard wood trees, and are embellished with handsome homes, of the sort, indeed, in which lives and loves unfold. And not a few of its residences are of the pretentious type that would adorn the avenues of any city.

Payette's educational facilities are conceded to be the very best in the great state of Idaho. Magnificent school buildings cater to the needs of nearly 2,000 pupils and one of the institutions is reckoned one of the hand-

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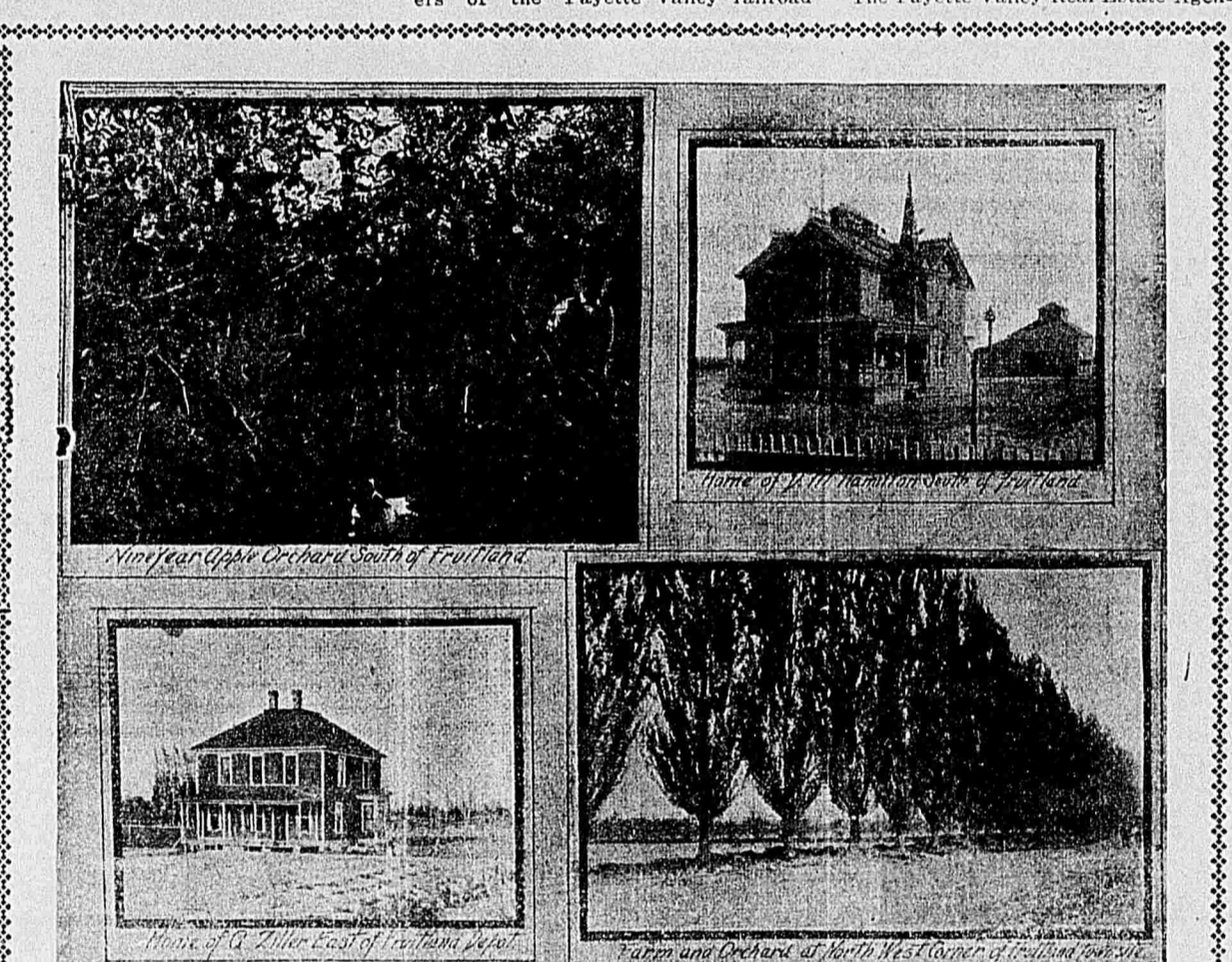
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VISTA VIEWS OF HOMES AND ORCHARDS NEAR FRUITLAND, IN THE FERTILE PAYETTE VALLEY

and stock, and for watering crops; good markets and excellent shipping facilities for all commodities produced.

**ENVIALE PRIZES.**  
Payette and its valley have been awarded for fruits enviable prizes. The lakes and rivers of the great valley are densely populated with trout and other game fish.

Year in and year out the average mean temperature is 55 degrees, while the latitude is the same as that of France, Switzerland, Portugal, Spain and Italy. The annual precipitation is about 12 inches, the rains coming mostly in the late fall and early spring. Winter in this wonderful valley is scarcely more than a name. On the other hand the lack of humidity renders the summers most delightful.

**DITCHES CO-OPERATIVE.**  
Most of the irrigating ditches are farmers' co-operative ditches, and only cost of maintenance is the bare expense of keeping them in repair, which averages 50 cents per acre annually. The source of the irrigation water supply is absolutely unlimited, as the Payette river is fed by the Payette lakes, and hence is greatly in excess of any possible demands that could be made upon it.

Under the system of irrigation farming, as much can be grown on one acre here as can be grown on four acres in humid districts.

It is not uncommon to gather from six-year-old trees 250 pounds of apples; from 10-year-old trees, 1,200 pounds. Pears and prunes are an equally profitable crop. As regards berries, as high as \$100 to \$500 per acre is not uncommonly realized.

Right here it is but proper to state that this year in and about Payette the farmers and stock raisers realized

saw the need of the valley and supplied its wants. The connecting link with the Oregon Short Line railroad, known as the Payette Valley railroad, or more familiarly called the "Punkin' Vine," by Payetteites, extends a distance into the valley of 13 miles, tapping the rich in fruit towns of Fruitland and New Plymouth. This road operates a triple daily service carrying passengers and hauling large quantities of fruit and general merchandise. During the sugar beet season one train daily handles from 15 to 25 cars for shipment to the factory at Nampa.

**SOME BIG SHIPMENTS.**  
A better understanding of what the wonderful valley produces right in the vicinity of Payette can be had when it is known that this year 400 cars of fruit, including apples, prunes, peaches, pears and cantaloupes valued at \$300,000 were shipped out. Ten cars of dried fruits, valued at \$20,000, made another shipment, while two cars of honey netted another \$2,000. No less than 3,000 barrels of vinegar were manufactured and shipped from Payette this year, which brought into that thriving city \$20,000. Poultry, butter and eggs netted another \$16,000, and the sugar beet crop netted at least \$90,000. Some 1,000 cars were shipped to the factory. Hay brought at least \$50,000, and 43 cars of canned fruits and vegetables netted \$65,000. Wool and cattle added other large sums.

**RAILROAD OFFICIALS.**  
No history of Payette and the Payette valley would be in any way complete without reference and praise for the officials of the Payette Valley railroad. Unquestionably the most credit for the success of the road is due to the untiring efforts of Hyrum E. Dunn, vice president and general manager.

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IRRIGATED LAND UNDER CULTIVATION NEAR PAYETTE.