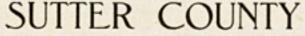




D DRYING FRUIT



PUMPING PORIRRIGATION . TE TO THE PUMPING PORIRRIGATION .



By D. D. Green, County Clerk

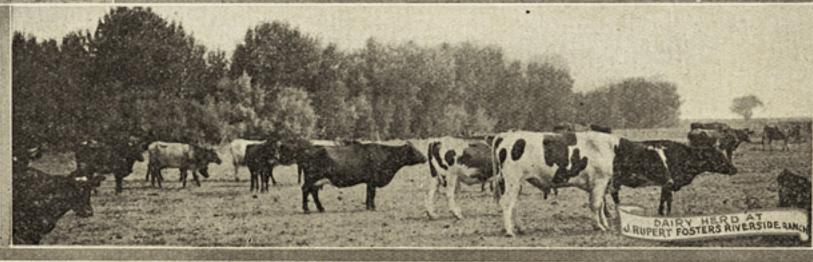
The peninsula county, built by the sediment-laden waters of the Sacramento and the Feather, is Sutter County, comprising a body of land that is all good, with the exception only of the Sutter Buttes, which rise abruptly from the plain near the northern boundary of the county and near the center of the Sacramento Valley.

Yuba City, the county seat, is situated on the right bank of the Feather, directly opposite Marysville, amid one of the finest orchard and vineyard districts in the State. This is the home of the Thompson's seedless grape and produces the bulk of the seedless raisin crop of the State. Peaches, figs, plums, pears, apricots and other fruits are grown extensively. Great fruit canneries, drying yards and packing houses are located at Yuba City.

The orchard and vineyard district extends north, south and west from Yuba City. Beyond these, to the south and west, are grain lands ,and beyond these are low lands subject to overflow, except where protected by levees. To the north, are grain lands fast coming under irrigation, as the Butte County canal is extended yearly further south. Along the rivers, alfalfa, potatoes, corn and other high-class products are grown. Dairying is followed extensively. There are creameries at Yuba City, Live Oak and Meridian; cheese factories near Nicalaus and Vernon, one of these being the largest in the State.

Lying between the Sacramento and the Feather is a large tract of low land, the Sutter Basin, which, under present conditions, is under water a goodly portion of the year. A project for the reclamation of this basin is now under consideration by a syndicate of capitalists. The lands are among the most fertile in the world. The soils are composed of river wash mixed with decayed vegetation, the accumulation of centuries. The basin comprises approximately 100,000 acres.







The fertility of these lands is abundantly proven in "District 70," a reclamation district comprising 20,000 acres, lying between Butte Slough and the Sacramento River. This district has been reclaimed by levees and constitutes one of the richest farm districts of the State. Valuable crops are grown, including sweet potatoes, watermelons, cantaloupes, tomatoes and many others. Beans and Indian corn are grown extensively. Alfalfa is the leading crop.

Too much cannot be said of the fertility of this soil. It is the very best. Crops are large and there has never been a failure. Development of District 70 has been retarded by the fact that river transportation alone has been available, but this is to be remedied by an extension of the Northern Electric Railway, soon to be built from Marysville to Colusa, via Meridian.

The advantages afforded settlers in Sutter County are amply demonstrated by hundreds of successful farms. As an instance, the Stewart tract may be cited. This tract consisted of 400 acres; it was divided into about 30 farms, ranging from 5 to 20 acres, and sold at an average price of about one hundred dollars. At that time it was a grain and stock ranch and there were practically no improvements on the property. The purchasers built homes, planted orchards, vineyards and alfalfa fields. They have been uniformly successful. Most of the farms were purchased by men of limited means, with a small payment down; all of them have been paid for, not a single parcel was sacrificed; the owners have substantial bank accounts, and several have since acquired additional land.

Sutter County affords many similar opportunities. Thousands of acres are still sown to grain that should be growing more valuable crops. Practically every acre of land can be irrigated either by canal or pumping. Values are still ranging from \$100 to \$150 an acre for the best land ready for the farmer. Every condition invites. Steam and electric railways afford transportation, there are free rural delivery routes, telephone lines and other modern conveniences.

