

BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

RICH SOIL AND WONDERFUL PRODUCTS

Every known product of the temperate and semi-tropical zones can be raised profitably on the fertile land of Butte County. The soil is alluvial, deep and rich, and was built up by deposits from the Sierra Nevadas carried in solution by the Feather River. Its amazing fertility is attested by the tremendous crops it produces. The land was formerly monopolized by immense wheat ranches, but the greater value of other products caused these large tracts to be cut up two years ago, and gave the home builder a wish long entertained to possess 5, 10 or 20 acres of this rich land. Settlers are pouring in rapidly, and all of this incomparable land will be gone before long.

There are ranches about Biggs on which are grown very profitably, oranges, peaches, figs, alfalfa, grapes, English walnuts, cherries,



A Prune Orchard near Biggs

THE BIGGS COLONIES

prunes, almonds, pears, sugar beets, and vegetables of all kinds. The Butte County peach is famous. It commands the **highest price from the canneries of any peach grown in California.** A crop from sixty acres near Biggs sold for \$16,500.00, and a three-acre orchard had a yield which brought \$2,700.00 last season. The product of a thirty-acre orchard sold for over \$500.00 an acre. Canners pay a premium of from \$5 to \$10 a ton for peaches grown near Biggs.

\$9,000 NET FROM 30 ACRES OF PEACHES

One of the best illustrations of what can be accomplished here by an intelligent, energetic farmer is that supplied by Henry Haselbusch, who owns a fine peach orchard, about seven years old, located near Biggs. This thirty acres of cling peaches brought its owner **\$11,900 gross** this year. His expenses



One of the Orange Orchards

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were less than \$3,000, leaving him about \$9,000 as the net profits for one year from thirty acres of peaches. And this is not unusual.

The manager of the Hatch & Rock orchard, which comprises about 2,700 acres of various fruits, nuts, etc., reports gross proceeds this year of \$5,600 from twenty acres of French prunes, \$3,000 from twenty acres of apples, Gravensteins and Astrachans, and over \$2,000 from six acres of Hungarian prunes, which were shipped to the East.

These are but a few of the many instances of handsome profits realized from orchards near Biggs. With good land, plenty of water for irrigation and intelligent care of the trees, any man can get as good results.



Lateral Irrigating Ditch near Biggs

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Grapes and prunes yield enormous crops and pay well. The Thompson seedless grape is being grown more extensively in Butte County each year, as it does better here than in any other part of the State. Ten tons of grapes can be raised to the acre, and they sell for from \$12 to \$18 a ton. All other fruits pay well.

Five to six crops of alfalfa are sure, with irrigation, every year. The yield is 8 to 10 tons to the acre. The alfalfa sells for from \$5 to \$6 a ton, in the stack. If held until December or later it will bring a much higher price. In connection with hog raising or dairying, alfalfa will produce a net revenue of \$50 to \$100 a year to the acre. And it's light, easy farming.

POULTRY pays extremely well, and here the farmer and not the cold storage or commission man, as in the East, gets the big end of the profit on eggs and chickens.



How Corn Grows in the Biggs Colonies