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# YOLO COUNTY CALIFORNIA



Yolo County is the home of some of the world's greatest dairy cows. In the herd shown here are three record-breakers. In the foreground is Tilly Alcartra, with a year's milk production of 30,452.6 pounds



FROM AN EDUCATIONAL STANDPOINT YOLO COUNTY RANKS AMONG THE VERY FOREMOST COUNTIES IN THE STATE

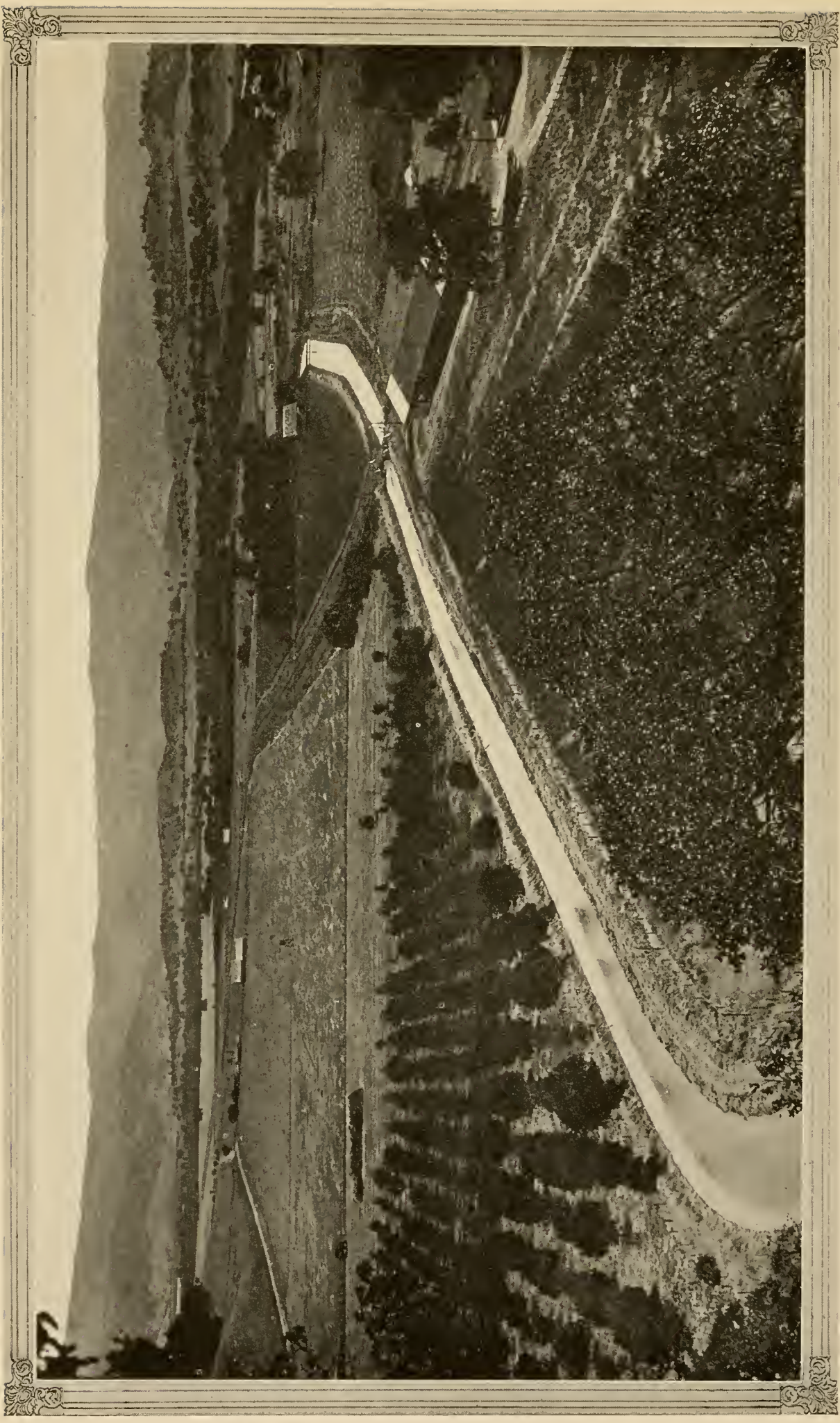


# Yolo County California

By ARTHUR DUNN



ISSUED BY  
SUNSET MAGAZINE HOMESEEEKERS' BUREAU  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE YOLO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, EXPOSITION COMMISSION  
BY ORDER OF THE YOLO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



# Yolo County, California



YOLO COUNTY, California, possessing wondrous wealth in the fertility of its soil, glorious climate and advantageous location, extends an invitation to all persons weary of drudgery and dreary days; who are tired of the struggle with storms and snow; who are cruelly cooped up in cities; who seek success; who, having dreamed of a home, want more than visionary happiness; who are patriotic and progressive; who love peace and desire plenty and prosperity. To such as these Yolo County holds forth a promise that may be fulfilled in rich rewards.

Yolo County is not being boomed. There is no inflated bubble to burst. The certain and steady growth of the county in recent years is due solely to its marvelous attractiveness, and the only reason that it is not more populous is because large tracts of land had been held for half a century in comparatively few ownerships.

Surely soil could not be more productive than indicated by the following excerpt taken from a report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture:

“It is ideal grain, alfalfa and fruit land. You may find growing on this soil wheat, corn, barley, oats, alfalfa, all the vegetables of a temperate and subtropical climate, apples, apricots, nectarines, plums, pears, prunes, oranges, lemons, limes, figs, pomegranates, grapes (table, wine and raisin), almonds, olives, English walnuts, berries of all kinds and melons.”

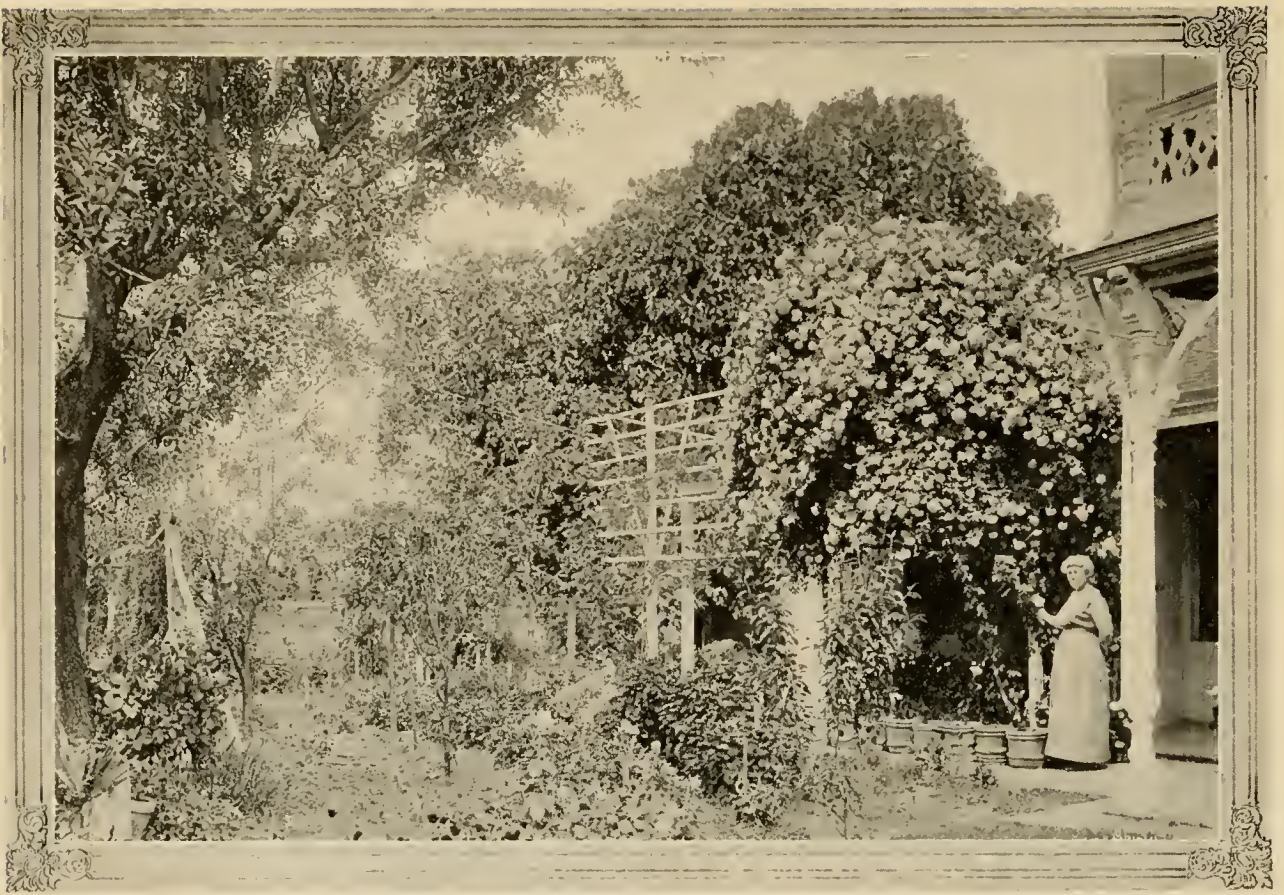
And since climate is an essential asset—in fact, the working capital of the farmer—it is well to cite at the outset the same government authority, as follows:

“The climatic conditions in general are favorable to the production of grain and other crops, the early ripening and coloring of fruits and the open-air curing of dried fruits. The dry air of the summer and late spring makes the region comparatively free from certain insect and fungus troubles affecting the fruit and trees in regions of great humidity.”

So in the very beginning Yolo County has its story half told by an indisputable authority, but it is the purpose of this booklet to give publicity to vital details, to accentuate the natural advantages of the county, and to impress upon the interested reader that here there are manifold opportunities that one cannot afford to overlook. Above all else the absolute truth is told from the opening sentence to the closing period. Indeed, it is unnecessary to draw any fanciful picture of the resources of Yolo, for the productivity of its soil is so marvelous that facts, honestly related, sometimes seem like the vaporings of an enthusiast.

Yolo County is anxious to reach the homeseeker, the man who wants to settle upon a twenty- or forty-acre tract of land and enjoy the fruits of his labor. There is need for such persons in this county, and when it is understood that ninety persons or corporations own sixty-five per cent. of all the lands in Yolo County and that the average farm acreage is 365 acres, one can realize readily that there is ample room for thousands of families.

In addition to its matchless soil and ideal climate Yolo County has all the conveniences of modern civilization—railroads, water transportation, electric light and power, excellent educational facilities, including the State University Agricultural College, telephone, telegraph, complete system of highways, rural mail delivery system, free public library and everything required for comfort and convenience by a progressive people.



AN AMAZING VARIETY OF PRODUCTS IS GROWN IN THE FERTILE SOIL THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE COUNTY

### General Location

Yolo County is situated in the very heart of the Sacramento Valley and therefore is almost in the center of California. The Sacramento River, the fifth largest river in the United States, separates the county from Sacramento, the capital city of the State.

The landed area of Yolo County is 1,014 square miles, and the population approximates 16,000. Within the borders of this county is the largest contiguous body of unbroken fertile land in the State. The southern boundary of the county is Putah Creek, the Coast Range mountains are on the west, Colusa County is on the north and the Sacramento River marks the boundary of the east. The county-seat of Yolo, Woodland, is twenty miles distant from Sacramento and eighty-six miles from San Francisco.

The river is one of the county's natural advantages. This body of water changes its course from a southerly to a westerly course on its way to the Pacific, and washes Yolo shores for a distance of ninety miles. Rich sedimentary deposits have formed the delta lands along the river. About seventy-five per cent. of the county consists of level land, the balance being gently sloping hills and mountains.

### Soil Conditions

The soil of Yolo County can not be excelled. While it may not all be classified alike, it is all rich in the elements required for plant growth. On a great portion of the land is a sedimentary deposit, left there in ages ago by Putah and Cache creeks and the Sacramento River. Speaking of this soil, Mr. J. M. Wilson, a government expert, after an examination of the soil reported:

“There is no finer agricultural land than this sedimentary deposit. It is mellow, warm and fertile with good drainage, yet holding a reserve of moisture to resist drought.”



GOLDEN GRAIN HIGHER THAN A MAN'S HEAD IS ANOTHER PROOF OF THE FERTILITY OF THE SOIL IN YOLO

Not only is this soil marvelously rich, but in depth it can not be surpassed by any place in California. For half a century grains have been grown on these lands, and they will produce anything that may be grown in any section of the State, and nearly everything that can be produced in any part of the United States. Except where intensively farmed, at present a large portion of the landed area of Yolo is almost virgin soil and there is no need of fertilization to insure phenomenal yield of all kinds of crops.

Perhaps a better idea of the fertility of the soil may be gleaned from a statement made by Mr. Wilson, the government expert quoted in a preceding paragraph, who said:

“On a lot in the town of Woodland, eighty feet front by a depth of 145 feet, one-seventh of an acre, the following trees, plants, vines and flowers were found in full bearing: twelve navel orange, one lemon, one cherry, three apple, two fig, two olive, two apricot, four almond and two plum trees, fifty-eight grape vines (nine varieties), plots of dewberries, raspberries and loganberries, fifty varieties of rose bushes, a small vegetable garden of onions, tomatoes, lettuce, mint, sage, parsley, and beds of bulbous and other flowering plants.”

There are innumerable instances where flourish, side by side, the choicest products of the temperate zone and the sub-tropics; and the apple, peach, pear, plum, apricot, orange, lemon, lime and fig.

For years thousands of acres have been sown to grain by the farmers of Yolo County. Like other sections of California wheat was king in this county, and every farmer seemed to want to rival his neighbor in the extent of the territory over which he ruled. Mile after mile came under one ownership. Golden grain brought minted money to the grower. The person advocating and practicing intensive farming was looked upon contemptuously. Consequently the wonderfully rich lands of Yolo were misused for decades and the county's growth was retarded while other and less favored spots in



GRAIN ACREAGE EXCEEDS THAT GIVEN OVER TO ALL OTHER CROPS, BUT THE GREAT GRAIN FIELDS ARE RAPIDLY GIVING WAY TO FRUIT AND TRUCK FARMS

the State sprang up into new and vigorous life. They had the advantage of numbers and the development that comes with well directed ambition.

Years ago foreign governments and peoples learned that small acreage properly and scientifically cultivated was more profitable to the individual and more desirable for the State than large tracts; but it took the United States government a long time to realize the truth. The fact is that this government had encouraged large land holdings, but now, especially in the irrigation projects under its direction, the advice is given to all farmers who would enjoy life and the good things of the soil to assume the control of only as much land as they may manage individually. So it was in Yolo County, and even today there are many ranches containing thousands of acres controlled by a few. Eventually these must pass on to the many to the greater enrichment and development of the community.

It is the large land holding that has prevented the increase of population warranted by the character of the soil and the natural advantages enjoyed by Yolo County. Indeed, population is the only "stunted growth" that can be found within the borders of the county. But now, persuaded by the overwhelming proofs offered by men of science and by communities of undoubted success, owners of vast tracts of land are throwing them open to the public, offering them for sale at prices that are reasonable and under conditions that are generous.

Since it is evident that the land is available for the homeseeker it is well to consider the other attractions of Yolo.

### Ideal Climate

Unless the climate agrees with plant life the richest soil is of little practical value. Fruit trees may grow in a freezing climate, but will not bear fruit. Soil may be fit for grain and alfalfa but blighting blasts may destroy the product. So the farmer must consider well all the climatic conditions that surround a place in which he contemplates locating.

The climate of Yolo cannot be excelled for uniformity and healthfulness. Every month in the year some kind of crop ripens in the open, and there is absolutely no time in the year when the growth of plant life is suspended or checked entirely. There is no winter, but there is a rainy season, beginning in November and lasting until February. There is ninety-seven per cent. sunshine throughout September.

According to the thermometer it gets hot in Yolo, but the summer heat is dry and not at all depressing. Sunstrokes are unknown, as they are generally throughout California. During the warmest periods the nights are cool. Refreshing breezes are wafted from the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean, cooling the atmosphere. Here are as many hours in the day and as many days in the year during which persons may enjoy outdoor life as any place in the world.

Plant life is putting forth vigorous growth, flowers are blooming and orchardists are picking and shipping deciduous fruits in a season when the weather is bleak and blizzardy in the East.

Throughout the harvest season in Yolo there is a cloudless sky. The farmer experiences not the slightest fear that his grain may be injured before the harvester gathers it. The warmth and light develop rich juices and exquisite coloring of flower and fruit and a wealth of bloom and perfume unknown in the East. The curing of forage is unattended by the uncertainty and anxiety experienced in places where rain may come at any season. Consequently from five to seven cuttings of alfalfa are assured every year.

Another advantage in the sunny sky of Yolo is in the preparation of dried fruits. California dried fruits—peaches and prunes, apricots, nectarines and figs—for which the State is noted throughout the world, are the results of our glorious sunlight.



YOLO COUNTY HAS A COMBINATION OF RAIL AND RIVER TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES RARELY EQUALLED BY ANY COMMUNITY

The average summer temperature of Yolo is seventy-seven and seven-tenths degrees; the average winter temperature is forty-eight and three-tenths degrees; average mean temperature, sixty-two and eight-tenths degrees.

It will thus be seen that Yolo is a county of perpetual paradise, where every plant known to floriculture flourishes in riotous profusion throughout the year, and roses, lilies, violets and carnations continue in flagrant bloom during the months of December, January and February.

When folk in the East are shoveling real snow the trees are covered with snow-white blossoms in Yolo! And that is the only sign of "snow" that ever appears in this county.

### Transportation Facilities

An oasis in the desert is of little value. It may be a garden spot in which nature works her many miracles, but unless those wonderful crops may be carried quickly to market by fast flying railroad trains they are worthless. Therefore one must consider transportation facilities as of vital importance to any community.

In this respect Yolo County cannot be beaten. The Southern Pacific Company operates two of its main lines through this county—the trans-continental line over the Sierras to the East and the main line running to Oregon, via the beautiful Shasta Route. Then there are two electric railways now traversing the county, and within a very short time it is expected that two others will operate here. The Southern Pacific also has branch lines in the county.

Railroads are ever watchful of transportation opportunities. When a community begins to move ahead usually the railroad keeps pace with it. Freight tonnage is not to be overlooked. It must be significant that all new





RICE, A GRAIN RECENTLY TRIED OUT IN THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY, HAS FAR EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS. YOLO RICE IS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY

electric lines built in the Sacramento Valley are either operating in Yolo County or are headed this way.

Another decided advantage in this regard is the Sacramento River, for ninety miles skirting the shores of Yolo. This stream is always open to navigation, and palatial steamers carry passengers and freight back and forth from San Francisco and Bay sections to Sacramento, the capital of the State. Yolo residents derive a direct benefit from this traffic for they may use these steamers for freighting or for other purposes.

With the great populous section of the West only eighty-six miles away and with the very best and swiftest means of transportation available, Yolo farmers readily ship their produce to the markets paying the highest price.

### Schools

From an educational standpoint, Yolo ranks among the foremost counties of California. The county is divided into forty-eight elementary and three high school districts. There are more than 2,000 pupils attending the elementary schools and nearly 400 are enrolled in the high schools.

The University of California, through the Department of Agriculture, has undertaken to establish a model district school after which other schools may pattern. This work is being done in Fairfield school district, which is near Davis. A modern building has been erected, and the grounds have been beautified by the planting of trees and shrubs by the pupils under the direction of State experts.

One of the finest high schools in northern California is situated at Woodland. The site covers an area of ten acres in two divisions, one of four acres and the other of six acres. A building for academic purposes has been erected on the four-acre tract, and is of steel frame and reinforced concrete. The cost with equipment was \$100,000. It is a fire-proof, two-story



THE STATE UNIVERSITY EXPERIMENTAL FARM AT DAVIS OFFERS ADVANTAGES FOR THE CLOSE RANGE STUDY OF AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL PROBLEMS

building with a finished basement. The building covers an area of 15,000 square feet, and has an assembly room with a seating capacity of 600. Of the rooms, all of which are well lighted, ventilated and heated, three are used by the commercial department, seven by the household economics department, among them being a model kitchen, bedroom, dining room and laundry. There are four science laboratories.

A building devoted to manual arts has been erected on the six-acre plot. This is of two stories and contains a floor area of over 5,000 square feet. On the first floor four rooms are devoted to wood and metal work and forging. The lockers and showers for the gymnasium are on this floor. The gymnasium occupies the upper floor. There are cloak rooms, a gallery and a kitchen.

Tennis and basketball courts occupy the main grounds, where there are also an athletic track and enclosed baseball grounds.

### County Library

A Free County Library movement, now authorized by law in California, was initiated in Yolo County in 1905, and nearly all of the county school districts have joined the County Library. There are about 10,000 books in the County Library, and the circulation during the current year approximated 50,000. Books from the State library at Sacramento are available for use on request. Magazines of all kinds may be taken out for home reading.

### University Farm

If it were necessary to still advance arguments as to the desirability of Yolo County for farming purposes, the fact that the University of California established one of the largest and best farms possessed by any college of agriculture in the world at Davis, Yolo County, should be final. The entire area of 780 acres is of Putah Creek soil far-famed for its depth and richness. This site was selected in competition with more than one hundred other communities and only after most exhaustive examinations. That no mistake was made is evidenced by the fact that recent investigations have shown that the soil is of similar character to a depth of fourteen to twenty feet, at which point water is found. Roots of barley and other small grains and plants penetrate to the same distance.

The chief business of such an institution is instruction and experimentation. Provision is made for three lines—students who go from the main University of California at Berkeley for one term out of their four-year course, students in the Farm School which regularly is a three-year course, and short-course students who are provided with exceptional facilities for brief periods during October and November of each year. Any person over seventeen years of age is admitted to the short courses without examination. The fees are nominal, being on a basis of one dollar a week.

Experimentation looking to the improvement of California agriculture occupies a large place and is being conducted in irrigation to determine the duty of water for alfalfa and other crops; in grain growing to increase the yield and quality of wheat, barley and oats, and to determine practicable methods of improving and conserving soil fertility; in fruit growing to study varieties and methods of culture and control of various diseases; in forage crops to study new and promising varieties of alfalfa, corn, sorghum and legumes for green manuring; in live stock to gain further knowledge of how to combat tuberculosis and other diseases; in poultry to determine the best types of houses for California and study methods of feeding and breeding for best laying strains; in dairying to improve quality of butter and secure larger returns to dairymen.



100,000 ACRES ARE IRRIGATED FROM THE IMPOUNDED WATERS OF CACHE CREEK. A SPLENDID SYSTEM OF CANALS DISTRIBUTES THE SUPPLY

### Irrigation

This is the age of irrigation. For years it had been the practice of successful farmers to rely entirely upon the seasonal rainfall, which was regarded as ample for grains, horticulture, and all branches of agriculture, and few failures were ever recorded. But long since it was determined that both yield and quality of fruits of all kinds are improved manifold with the aid of irrigation. Besides, the irrigating ditch full of water or the well harnessed with electricity are absolute safeguards against possible drought, and they also give assurance of the proper amount of moisture at the exact time it is required.

Government engineers unhesitatingly have declared that the topographical and hydrographical conditions in Yolo County are such that irrigation by means of a canal system can be developed and maintained here better than anywhere on the Pacific Coast. The Yolo County Water and Power Company system now covers approximately 100,000 acres, and is capable of being developed to double its present capacity. This company takes its supply from Cache Creek, in Capay Valley, and distributes it by means of first-class canals. There is always sufficient water when it is required.

The reclamation of overflowed lands is another feature of development that is under way in Yolo County. Within a very short time fully 100,000 acres of this very fertile land will be available, and the diversity of crops that may be grown on this soil will astonish a person not familiar with this rich land.

Throughout the county there has been no difficulty in tapping an inexhaustible subterranean water supply, and, with the certainty of electric power for pumping purposes farmers everywhere are availing themselves of this inexpensive method of irrigation. One company, which had planted sugar beets, requiring a large amount of water, irrigated 2,000 acres from



IRRIGATING A YOUNG VINEYARD. THERE IS NO BETTER MEANS KNOWN OF INSURING THE GROWTH OF PLANT LIFE

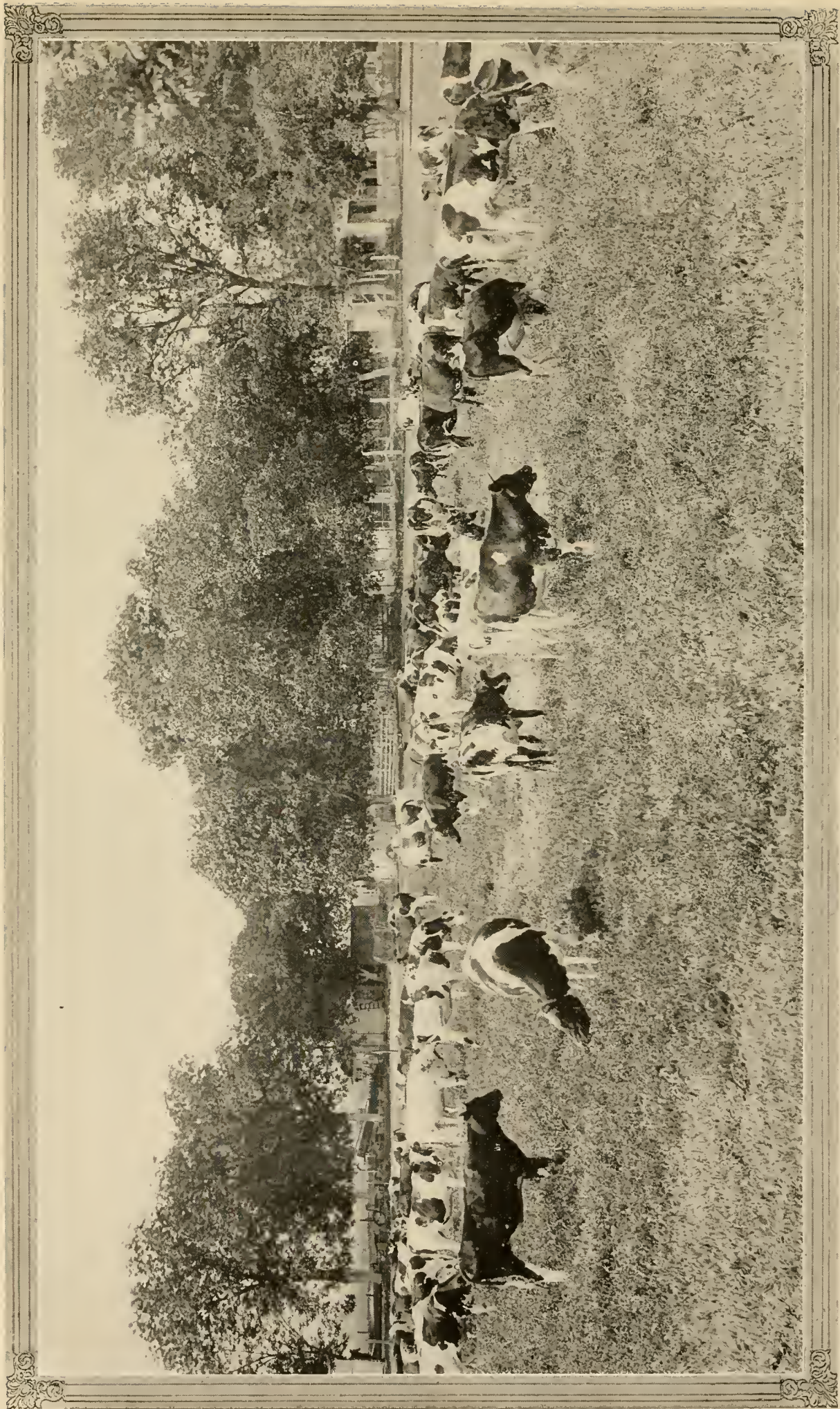
one plant alone. Farmers on adjoining tracts experienced no difficulty in obtaining all the water needed for their crops, notwithstanding that the larger plant was pumping apparently from the same underground strata.

This clearly indicates that it is possible for a farmer to grow alfalfa in a section not now served by a canal system, and that he may safely place absolute reliance upon this method of irrigation for all purposes. There never need be fear of drought.

An idea of the rapid development of irrigation may be gleaned from a statement made by the Pacific Gas & Electric Company, which is the source of the electric energy used throughout Yolo County. This company had five horse-power used for irrigating purposes in the city limits of Woodland. That was in 1911, and since that time the distributing lines have been extended until today there is a grand total of over fifty miles of 11,000 volts pole line and more than 2,500 horsepower have been harnessed by farmers to centrifugal pumps in units varying from five to 150 horsepower for the purpose of irrigating alfalfa, sugar beets, grain, corn, orchards and vineyards.

### Reclamation

Just as the modern farmer has learned to store up the mountain waters for irrigation work in summer, he has also learned to reclaim for his use thousands of acres of overflow land which were formerly useless except for occasional pasturage. Yolo County contains approximately 200,000 acres of such land. Of this about 70,000 acres have already been reclaimed; another 30,000 are under way; 6,000 are given over to the by-pass for the Sacramento River, leaving about 40,000 not yet undertaken. This land is part of a general plan involving over \$30,000,000, of which one-third is for river improvement and two-thirds for levee construction. It is assured that the Federal Government will bear one-half the river improvement work or about one-sixth of the entire cost.



DAIRYING IS ONE OF THE CHIEF INDUSTRIES. THE PRIDE OF CALIFORNIA STOCK FANCIERS IS THE PURE BRED WORLD'S RECORD DAIRY STOCK OF YOLO COUNTY



PERMANENCY IS A FEATURE OF THE IRRIGATING CANAL SYSTEMS WHICH COVER THE COUNTY

Owing to the wonderful fertility of the overflowed land, reclamation has been carried on for many years in the Sacramento Valley on an ever increasing scale. Up to a few years ago success was by no means always assured, as each individual aimed simply to protect his own property and there was no concerted action to provide for the carrying off of those waters which were excluded from the lands. This important feature, that of providing an outlet for the flood waters of the river is now under the control of the State Reclamation Board and the California Debris Commission, which, under the present plan, proposes a by-pass over two miles in width, the eastern edge of which will be about three or four miles west of the river itself. This new artificial river, so to speak, will have ample capacity for carrying off all surplus waters at flood time of the river and its tributaries. With this work being done under the supervision of state and federal authorities according to comprehensive plans reclamation districts have been organized and the work is now done at a minimum of cost and a maximum of benefit. Projects are now under way involving as high as 30,000 acres in a single tract.

The cost of the work is assessed on the land benefits and while the figure varies somewhat the average is about \$100 per acre, with many instances of it having been done for less than half that amount.

The soil of these lands has been formed largely by material carried in suspension by the flood waters of the Sacramento River and deposited for many years past.

Unreclaimed land sells at from \$25 to \$50 per acre and reclaimed land at from \$250 to \$500. Truck gardening, orchards and hops are the leading crops at present produced on this land which is ready to return to the cultivator the bounties which it has been accumulating for ages.

### Alfalfa

Where irrigation is practiced one finds alfalfa. This fine forage is cut five, six and seven times in Yolo County, for there is an ample water supply



AFTER EXHAUSTIVE INVESTIGATION OF THE VARIOUS SITES OFFERED, THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SELECTED THIS COUNTY AS THE MOST FAVORABLE SITE AND CLIMATE OF THIS COUNTY. THE PRESENCE OF THE UNIVERSITY FARM

and the climate is the "growing" kind. There are many magnificent stands of alfalfa throughout the county, and farmers, heretofore used to endless fields of grain, now are adopting alfalfa on smaller acreage and making more money than they were under the old method.

Whether the alfalfa hay is sold or fed to stock on the farm it is a big profit maker. Many farmers require all they can grow for their own purposes.

### Dairying

Dairying in Yolo County is highly profitable, and it is a matter of pride to the residents of this section that some of the world's prize cows are found in Yolo County dairies. A. W. Morris & Sons, dairymen and breeders of thoroughbred Holstein cattle, have established several world's records in their herd, including the first and third cows in the world to produce over 28,000 pounds of milk in a year, and the only two cows in the world that have produced in excess of 50,000 pounds of milk in two successive years.

A Yolo County cow, owned by A. W. Morris & Sons, in November, 1914, established a new world's record. This cow, Tilly Alcartra, closed a year's test under the direction of an expert from the University of California Farm School with the most remarkable milk yield in history. The dairy world has



HOGS—A SOURCE OF READY AND EASY MONEY IN CONNECTION WITH THE DAIRY AND ALFALFA FIELD





YOL COUNTY FOR THE LOCATION OF THE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM, A TRIBUTE TO THE MATCHLESS SOIL  
MEDIATE AND FIRST HAND AID TO THE NEW SETTLER IN YOLO COUNTY

been striving for years to develop a cow that could produce 30,000 pounds of milk. Tilly yielded 30,452.6 pounds in a single year. Yolo County now holds three of the six world-record milk cows.

Another of the herd has the distinction of being the world's greatest milk producer, having given 134.7 pounds of milk in one day and is the only cow in the world that has produced 900 pounds in seven days. This herd contains about 250 head of registered cows and heifers. Of these, the yearly records of fifteen cows show an average production of 721 pounds of butter fat and over 20,000 pounds of milk. Forty cows have completed year tests averaging 600 pounds of butter fat, and less than half of these have reached mature age.

This gives one an idea of what may be accomplished by a dairyman. Nor is this merely an isolated case, but it is the rule in Yolo County for farmers to breed the best stock. It would be hard to find anywhere in California, if not in the West, better herds than those established by the Bullard estate, the Gibsons, the Glides, H. P. Eakle, H. G. Armstrong, A. W. Morris, H. H. Gable and others. Durhams, Holsteins, Jerseys, Herefords, Ayreshires, Polled Angus and the Brown Swiss have ardent admirers.

There is a creamery at Woodland, another at Winters and a third is operated at the State University Farm at Davis, which paid farmers \$50,000 last season. Each of these is run to full capacity, and considerable milk also is shipped to other points.



YOLO COUNTY SHEEP ARE IN DEMAND ALL OVER THE COUNTRY WHERE PURE-BRED FLOCKS ARE RAISED



ALMONDS AND PRUNES ARE THE FAVORITE TREE CROPS ALTHOUGH PEACHES, APRICOTS, PLUMS, PEARS, FIGS, WALNUTS AND OTHER VARIETIES ARE GROWN PROFITABLY

## Hogs

The successful farmer of today, besides raising alfalfa and keeping dairy cows, also finds hogs highly profitable, and Yolo farmers are sensible in breeding high-class stock. The little extra care shows in bonus prices at market. Instead of raising "just pigs" farmers are coming to understand the scientific way of feeding to produce the best results.

## Fruit Growing

G. H. Hecke, a horticulturist of renown, is county commissioner of horticulture. He declares that Yolo County has in abundance the three fundamental conditions that make fruit farming profitable. First, the climatic conditions are of the best. Second, fertile soil can be found in large quantity, and third, the proper moisture conditions can be supplied. As elsewhere, care and discretion must be exercised in the selection of these conditions, for there are locations where all of these three necessities cannot be found and hence would not be suitable.

While virtually all commercial fruits are grown in the county, there are some well defined districts that are particularly profitable for certain fruits. Apricots, figs, peaches and almonds are favorites along the foothills of western Yolo from Winters to Rumsey. Woodland and Davis are noted for the fine quality of prunes, almonds and seedless raisins, and the river district for the excellent quality of Bartlett pears.

The following is taken from the latest orchard census of the county:

Fruit	No. Trees	Fruit	No. Trees
Almonds . . . . .	292,700	Peaches . . . . .	136,600
Apricots . . . . .	124,900	Prunes . . . . .	93,800
Plums . . . . .	38,400	Pears . . . . .	49,000
Figs . . . . .	11,900	Olives . . . . .	15,028
Walnuts . . . . .	2,500	Oranges and Lemons . . . . .	5,295

The acreage planted to grapes is 6,000 acres. Apples and cherries are grown in many home orchards but are not produced on a commercial scale.

Yolo is one of the leading counties for the production of almonds.

Of the 4,000 acres planted two-thirds of the trees are in bearing. The leading varieties are Nonpareil, Ne Plus Ultra, I X L, Drake's Seedling, Peerless and Texas Prolific. Woodland and Davis districts have a number of splendid bearing orchards, but the center of the almond production is around the town of Esparto. At Guinda and Rumsey the almond also is growing with good results and a new territory from Madison north to Dunnigan recently is opening up as a promising field for this culture. The almond exceeds any other deciduous fruit and is being extended from year to year.

The foothill districts of the Coast Range are well adapted to the growing of peaches. Winters is noted for the quality of peaches, whether early varieties for shipping to the East, or for canning or drying. Winters is one of the districts in California from which the earliest shipments of fresh fruits are made. The varieties grown are the St. John, Alexander, Hale's Early and Triumph, all for early shipping, and the Crawfords, Elbertas and Muir for drying, and cling varieties for canning. Capay Valley ranks second in the total production.

The Winters district leads in the production of apricots, both as to quality and quantity. The favorite variety is the Royal, which is the best for drying, and Winters quality is the unsurpassed standard by which other cured apricots are judged. Europe, which takes the bulk of the crop, demands the "Winters" brand. The Pringle variety is grown for early



THIS PICTURE SHOWS THE METHOD OF IRRIGATING AN ORCHARD. THE WATER SUPPLY COMES FROM IRRIGATING SYSTEMS OR WELLS

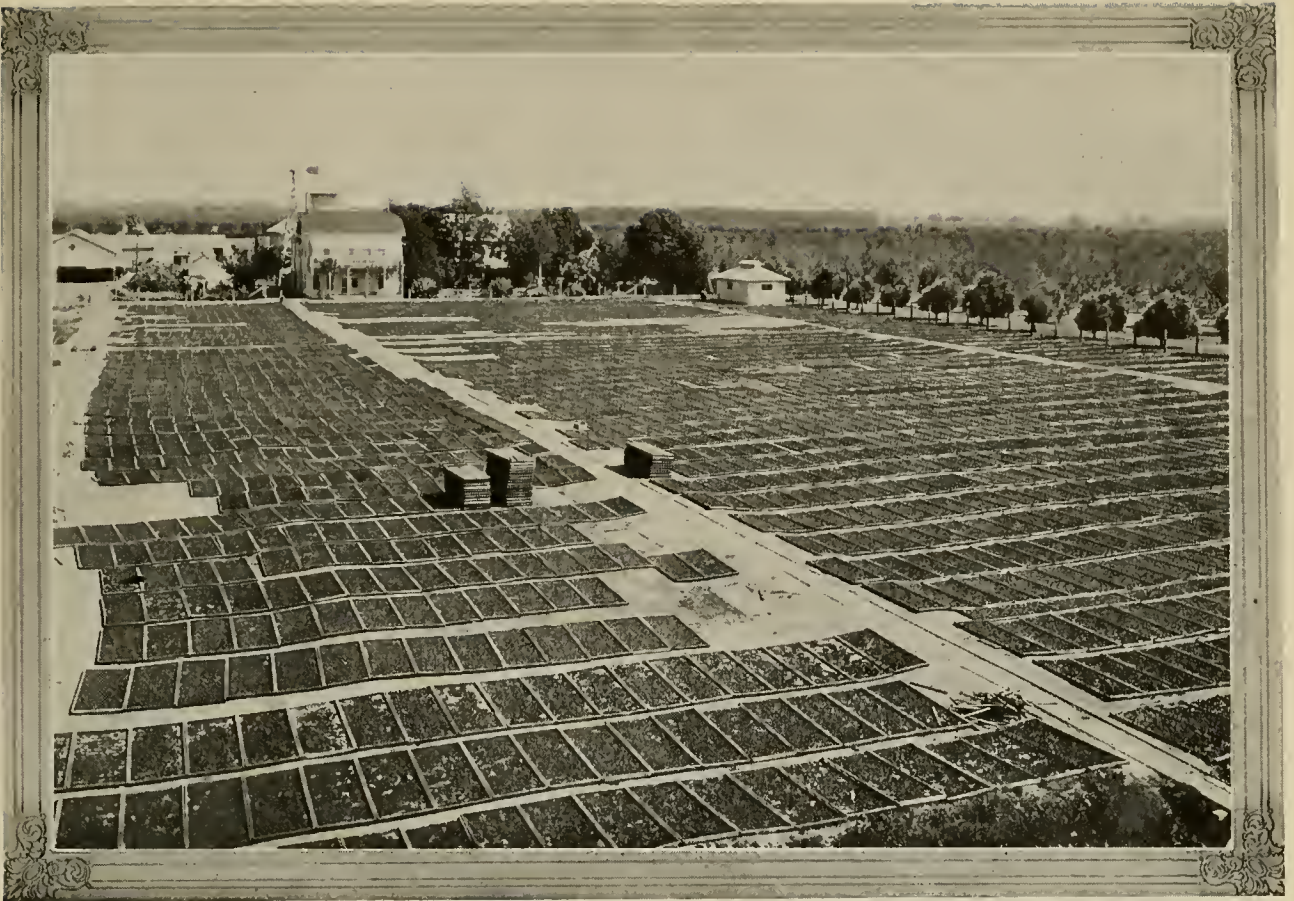
shipment. The Capay Valley also produces a fine quality of fruit, superior to the dried products of the lower lands of the county.

The Woodland district, located in the rich alluvial soils of the overflow of Cache Creek, excels in the quality of prunes. The Yolanda orchard, near Woodland, is one of the finest in California, the prune production rivaling any in the world. The variety grown is called the French prune, which develops into a large, vigorous tree, with abundant foliage and good-sized fruit, when planted on good soil. Some Imperials are grown as well as some sugar prunes, but not to any great extent. In Guinda township are grown superior prunes.

There is a considerable planting of pears, mostly on the rich bottom lands of the Sacramento River, and some at Capay and Winters. The fruit is an excellent shipper in both localities, and also is in great demand for canning. The lower lands offer splendid opportunities for further extending this profitable product. Pear blight, responsible for so many disappointments in pear culture, is kept under good control in existing orchards.

Large plantings of the black Mission fig are found in a strip of land between Winters and Citrona and good returns are realized year after year. The trees are large and vigorous and bear heavily. In the Woodland district several orchards of the Calimyrna—the imported commercial variety of Asia Minor—have been planted but are not yet in bearing. For these Calimyrna varieties it is necessary to have a few Capri figs and fig wasps for pollenization. The market price for these dried varieties is high.

Fully ninety per cent. of the olives in the county are of the Mission variety. Other varieties are Manzanillas and Sevillanos for pickling and Nevadillos for oil. The Mission brings excellent prices for pickling. Contracts are made for periods of five to ten years at figures that show an excellent financial return. The olive, when planted near the foothills, has



FRUIT IS SAFELY LEFT TO DRY IN THE SUMMER SUN WITHOUT FEAR OF DAMAGE FROM UNEXPECTED SHOWERS

the advantage of ripening earlier than in localities of the lower valleys, where ripening is later and the danger of harm by early frosts is greater.

There is renewed interest being manifested in walnuts, since new blight-resisting varieties have been bred and tested thoroughly. The varieties planted or grafted are the Mayette, Franquette, Wilson's Wonder, Eureka and Neff's Prolific. The last two are comparatively blight-resistant.

For years oranges have done well in the lower valley, indicating that climatic conditions will permit planting on a commercial scale. If such results are obtained in the Woodland district, it is safe, for commercial purposes, to choose certain higher levels of the valley near the foothills, provided suitable soil and moisture can be found. In fact, existing groves at Rumsey and Esparto demonstrate the commercial certainty of citrus culture. So far the fruit is not produced in earload quantities, hence the shipping expense is high and reduces the profits. When once a sufficient acreage is planted to warrant a packing house and shipment of earload lots, then citrus culture will become a well established industry in Yolo.

Grapes are found largely in the fertile districts surrounding Woodland. A little more than half of this acreage is devoted to wine grapes, the balance to raisin and table grapes. The seedless raisin, produced and known to the trade as Woodland Sultanas, generally is oil-bleached and has proved uniformly profitable. New vineyards, when located near older plantings, should be on resistant stock, to protect against phylloxera, which is the only serious insect pest menacing the grape vine, hence must be guarded against. Varieties for wine making are the old Zinfandel, Alieante Bouschet, Serine, Burger. Raisin varieties are Sultana, Thompson Seedless, Muscat and Malaga.

Apples and cherries are found in many home orchards but are not grown on a commercial scale.



THE HOP CROP OF YOLO COUNTY BRINGS IN UPWARDS OF \$500,000 ANNUALLY. THE CROP IS RAISED NEAR THE RIVER LEVEL

## Grain

As has been stated previously wheat and barley acreage exceeds all others in Yolo County. Nearly 50,000 acres are in barley, and the production will be fully 1,250,000 bushels a season. The wheat acreage approximates 15,000 acres, and the yield will average 250,000 bushels a season. This does not include grains that are cut green.

## Hops

Hops are grown along the river and the industry is increasing rapidly. The crop in this county sells for about \$500,000. The industry requires a special knowledge but pays well where handled intelligently.

## Rice

Within the past two or three years rice culture has attracted considerable attention in California. It is estimated that there are now some ten thousand acres planted to rice, most of this acreage being in the Sacramento Valley. Rice will grow only in low land which can be easily irrigated and drained. The remarkable increase in acreage within the past two years, together with the great increase in rice production, indicates that this new branch of agriculture will prove highly profitable to the California farmer.

There are a number of rice farms in Yolo County which are demonstrating the practicability of the industry in this county. The river bottom lands are most adaptable to rice culture.

## Live Stock

Yolo County was awarded more prizes at the 1913 and 1914 State Fair in the live stock division than any other county of the State.

A Yolo County hog won the sweepstakes prize. A race-horse bred in Yolo broke the Pacific Coast record on a Yolo County race-track. Yolo County has the best cows in the world. Yolo sheep are sent all over the world for breeding purposes. Prize boars and rams have been purchased by farmers and cattlemen in many states.

Yolo County was made famous among the breeders of the world for the wonderful thoroughbred horses bred by the late Edward Corrigan and the late John W. Mackay, both of whom maintained high-class breeding farms in this county.

## Woodland

Woodland, the county-seat, is situated on the Cache Creek delta, in the center of the county. It is one of the most progressive cities in California, and its clean, well paved streets are lined with magnificent residences and fine business blocks.

The municipal government is model, the city owning its own water works and having a splendid sewer system. There are ample facilities for illumination, heat and power. The fire department is well organized and equipped.

Among its industries are one of the best flour mills in the State, an olive oil and pickling plant, and a creamery, which last season distributed more than \$100,000 among dairymen in the district.

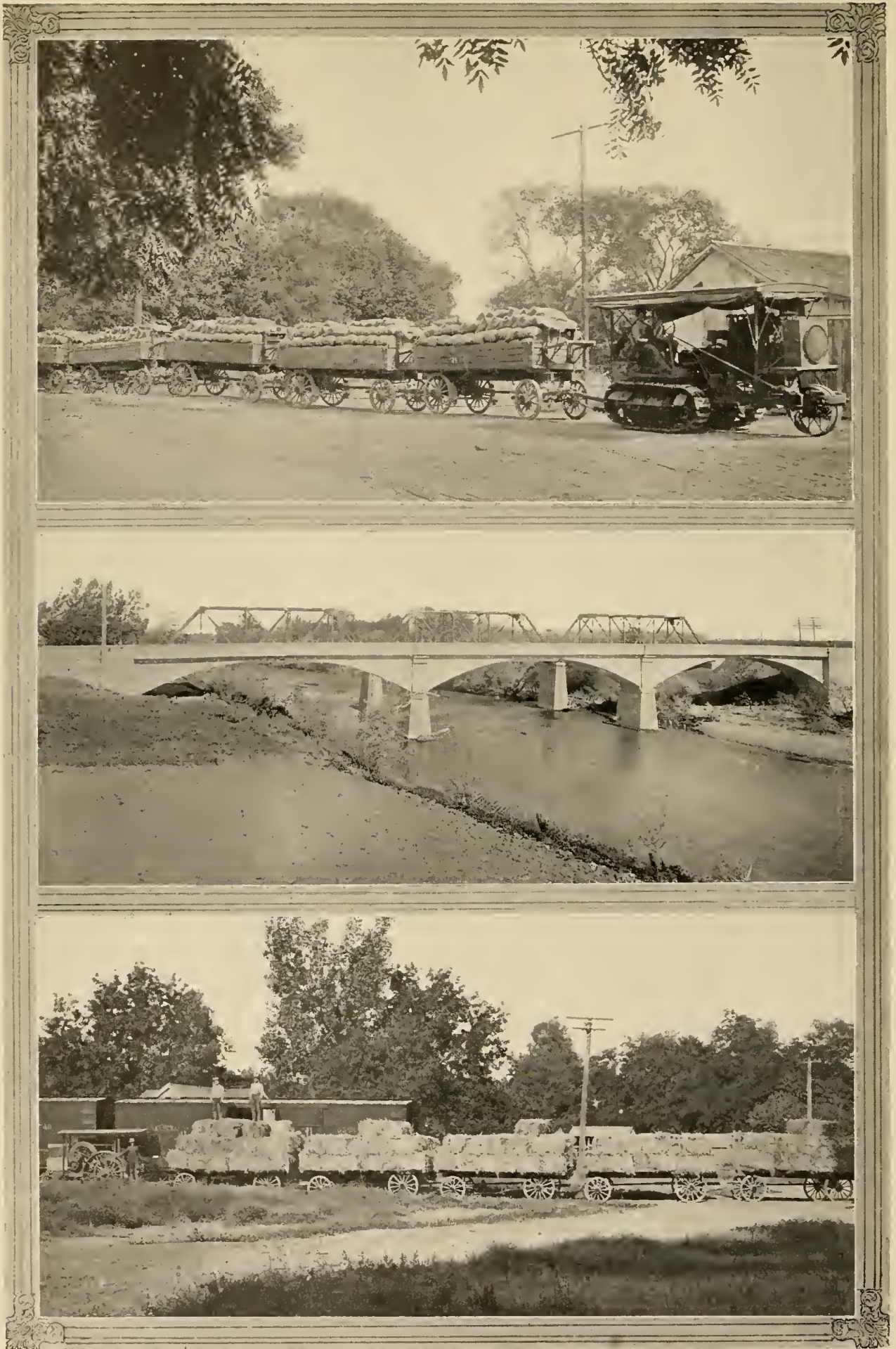
There are fine schools, among them a \$100,000 high school. There is also a private academy of state-wide reputation.

There is a free public library, containing many thousand books.

All religious denominations are well represented, many of them having fine substantial churches.

The surrounding country is a rich farming community, and agriculture and horticulture are the principal sources of the wealth of Woodland.

The town enjoys excellent rail facilities, the Southern Pacific operating its main northern line through it, and the Northern Electric running its electric trains to Sacramento and Valley points.



A FAMILIAR SCENE IN YOLO COUNTY IS A TRAIN OF WAGONS HAULED BY TRACTION ENGINES. THE HIGHWAY AND BRIDGE FACILITIES ARE EXCELLENT





THESE BUILDINGS, A BANK, COUNTRY SCHOOL AND CHURCH, ARE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PUBLIC AND BUSINESS PROPERTIES OF THE COUNTY



EVIDENCES OF PROSPERITY ON THE FARM. EVERYWHERE IN YOLO COUNTY IS FOUND THE COMFORTABLE HOSPITABLE HOME

## Winters

Winters is situated twenty miles southwest of Woodland and is the second largest town in the county. It is situated at the base of picturesque hills, and is in the very center of Putah Creek delta lands.

Winters is noted for its early fruits and vegetables, which are shipped everywhere. Winters apricots are famous the world over, the name "Winters" being regarded as a standard in European countries. Yearly, in May, the little city holds an Apricot Annual, in celebration of the first ripening of this fruit.

The fruit belt comprises about 10,000 acres of foothill land and the intervening valleys along the eastern base of the Coast Range, and also about 40,000 acres of deep alluvial soil located along Putah Creek.

Winters is a progressive little city, the business blocks being of a high standard.

There are good schools, including an excellent high school. There are several churches, and many beautiful homes.

Winters is on a branch line of the Southern Pacific.

## Guinda and Rumsey

Guinda and Rumsey are located near the head of the Capay Valley, one of the most striking and picturesque features of the county. The valley is twenty miles long and varies from one to four miles in width.

To the north the Coast Range forms a picturesque gorge through which flows Cache Creek, the outlet of Clear Lake, and which traverses the entire length of the valley. In this vicinity the soil is a fine sandy loam, ideal for all fruit and alfalfa. It is shielded from cold winds and frosts, and therefore is peculiarly adapted for early fruits and vegetables, which are shipped over the branch Southern Pacific line in large quantities.

## Capay

Capay is situated where Capay Valley opens into the great Sacramento Valley, on the branch Southern Pacific line.

From here are shipped large quantities of stock, wheat and barley. Many orchards and vineyards are in bearing hereabout.

## Esparto

Esparto is three miles from the entrance to Capay Valley, and also is on the branch line of the Southern Pacific.

This section is especially adapted to almonds, grapes, apricots, prunes and grain, all of which are shipped in large quantities.

There is a good grammar school and a fine high school at Esparto.

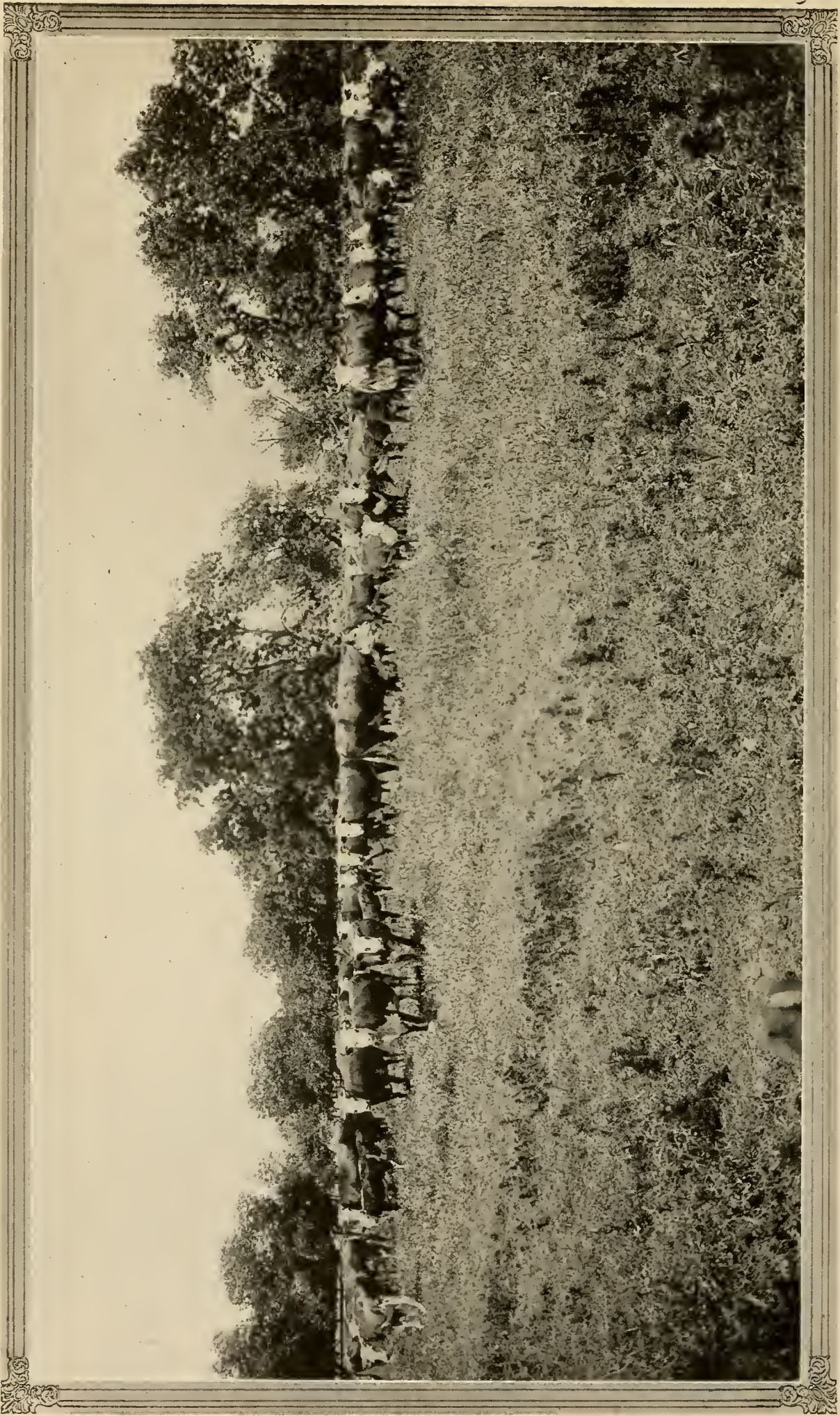
## Madison

Madison is twelve miles due west of Woodland. It is served by the Southern Pacific, and the surrounding country rapidly is being devoted to alfalfa growing and fruit, and there is still a very large acreage of grain grown.

## Davis

Davis is located on Putah Creek, thirteen miles west of Sacramento and eight miles from Woodland. It is a railroad junction and enjoys excellent transportation facilities. All Southern Pacific trains stop here, the main transcontinental line turning toward Sacramento and the East, while the main line to the north runs to Oregon by way of Woodland.

The farm operated in conjunction with the Agricultural Department of the University of California is situated at Davis, the site having been chosen after consideration of soil and climatic conditions in a hundred sections of California.



BEEF CATTLE ARE ALWAYS IN DEMAND IN CALIFORNIA AND ALFALFA MARKETED ON THE HOOF BRINGS THE GREATEST POSSIBLE RETURNS



THE YOLO COUNTY FARMER BELIEVES IN NO HALF-WAY BUSINESS IN HIS HIGHWAYS. THEY MUST BE AND ARE THE BEST

Davis has good schools, churches, and all elements that go to develop a thriving community.

The farming section is of the very best soil, being especially adapted to almonds, fruits of all kinds and alfalfa. There is considerable dairying in the section, the product being purchased by the State Farm, where a creamery is operated.

### **Dunnigan and Zamora**

Dunnigan and Zamora are railroad towns in the northern part of the county. They are centers of large grain, hay and grape districts, and are important shipping points.

There is considerable subdivision being done in these localities, which is proving of great benefit to both places.

### **Yolo**

Yolo, in the early days the county-seat of Yolo County, is a flourishing village on Cache Creek, on the line of the Southern Pacific and in the heart of a great fruit district.

The Yolo orchard, one of the largest in the world, is located here.

There has been a considerable development in the district by reason of large acreages having been cut up and sold to farmers who are farming them intensively. There is considerable dairying, many alfalfa fields and orchards where, only a few years ago, were great tracts given over exclusively to grains.

### **Knights Landing**

Knights Landing is the most northerly river town in the county. In the early days, prior to and during the territorial era of California, it was one of the famous towns of the Sacramento Valley. It is on the Oroville-



RAISING GREEN CORN FOR ENSILAGE HAS BECOME POPULAR AMONG THE DAIRYMEN OF THE COUNTY

Woodland branch railroad as well as on the Sacramento River and therefore enjoys excellent transportation facilities.

In this section irrigation and reclamation projects are being developed, opening up vast tracts of virgin soil.

### **Clarksburg**

Clarksburg, on the Sacramento River, is in the extreme southeastern portion of the county and is an important shipping point. It is the center of one of the most comprehensive reclamation systems in the State, the soil is rich and inexhaustible and the products varied.

### **Washington and Riverbank**

Washington and Riverbank, on the river just opposite Sacramento, are thriving towns, with good schools, churches, etc., and are adjacent to the great West Sacramento and River Garden Farms reclamation districts.

### **Banks**

Yolo County justly is proud of its banking institutions, of which there are nine in the county with a combined capital and surplus of \$2,697,375 and deposits aggregating \$4,161,155.35. These banks were organized and are officered by Yolo County men, and the capital invested in them and the money on deposit were earned in this county.

### **Social Life**

The social life of Yolo County is ideal. Not only are all the religious denominations represented but the principal fraternal orders have local lodges in all towns and cities.

Another attractive feature is the almost total absence of saloons. Liquor is not sold in Woodland, Winters, Davis, Esparto, and other sections of the county.



THE YOLO COUNTY FARMER'S SILO DIFFERS LITTLE FROM THAT OF HIS EASTERN COUSIN

### A Final Word

**Facts** have been set down in this booklet, and the Yolo County Board of Trade—an official organization the sole object of which is to bring settlers to the county—stands ready to substantiate every statement contained herein.

Yolo County needs farmers—persons who know and practice the science of intensive farming. There is room for thousands of them. Any and every section of the county wants settlers, and they will find without exception unparalleled conditions for fruit growing, dairying, alfalfa, nuts, grains, live stock, small berries and fruits, in fact, every kind and character of crop that may be grown in the temperate and sub-tropic zones.

Yolo County is close to markets having a permanent population of a million and a half persons, a number that is certain to be increased very materially within the next twelvemonth. There never is the slightest fear of over-production of anything grown in California, for the whole world is our market place, especially for citrus and deciduous and dried fruits.

Yolo County soil cannot be excelled. This has been proved by the selection of Yolo County for the location of the State Farm. This was done in competition with other sections of California. It would be useless to attempt to fix the price of lands in a publication of this character. Prices of available and desirable land vary according to location. But this much is certain: The best land is always high priced. Another thing is certain and that is that almost any acreage in Yolo County, intelligently farmed, will yield a handsome return on the money invested. By inquiry and investigation a prospective purchaser may be guided to a location which will be suited to his purpose. As anywhere else, a person must rely upon his judgment and the best experience of the community. Farming is not a haphazard undertaking. It requires brains to be a successful farmer.

Yolo County climate is without rival. At no time is it extremely cold and never excessively hot. "Winter" means merely the rainy season, and



A PROLIFIC YIELD OF GRAIN HAY. THE GRAIN AND HAY CROP IN YOLO AMOUNTS TO MORE THAN \$3,500,000 ANNUALLY

the average annual rainfall is eighteen inches. Summer is hot but not oppressive. The atmosphere is dry. At night cooling breezes are wafted up the valley and across the Coast Range from the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. It is the unusual climate of Yolo that ripens some of the first fruits shipped from California to the markets of the East. From end to end Yolo County is covered with blossoming trees at a time when the East is covered with snow.

Yolo County has the added advantage of inexhaustible water supplies—the Sacramento River washing its shores for ninety miles as it rushes on to the sea, Cache and Putah creeks, which race down from the mountains, and diversion canals which are always filled with water when it is needed for irrigating purposes. In addition to this there is a subterranean supply that may be tapped at comparatively shallow depth, and right at hand is a high-tension electric power line ready to be connected with a motor for pumping purposes.

With soil, climate, water, transportation, highways, schools—everything that civilization has to offer—in its favor, Yolo County unhesitatingly extends an invitation to all persons to come here on a visit. One who is seeking a home surely will make permanent his stay in this beautiful section of glorious California!

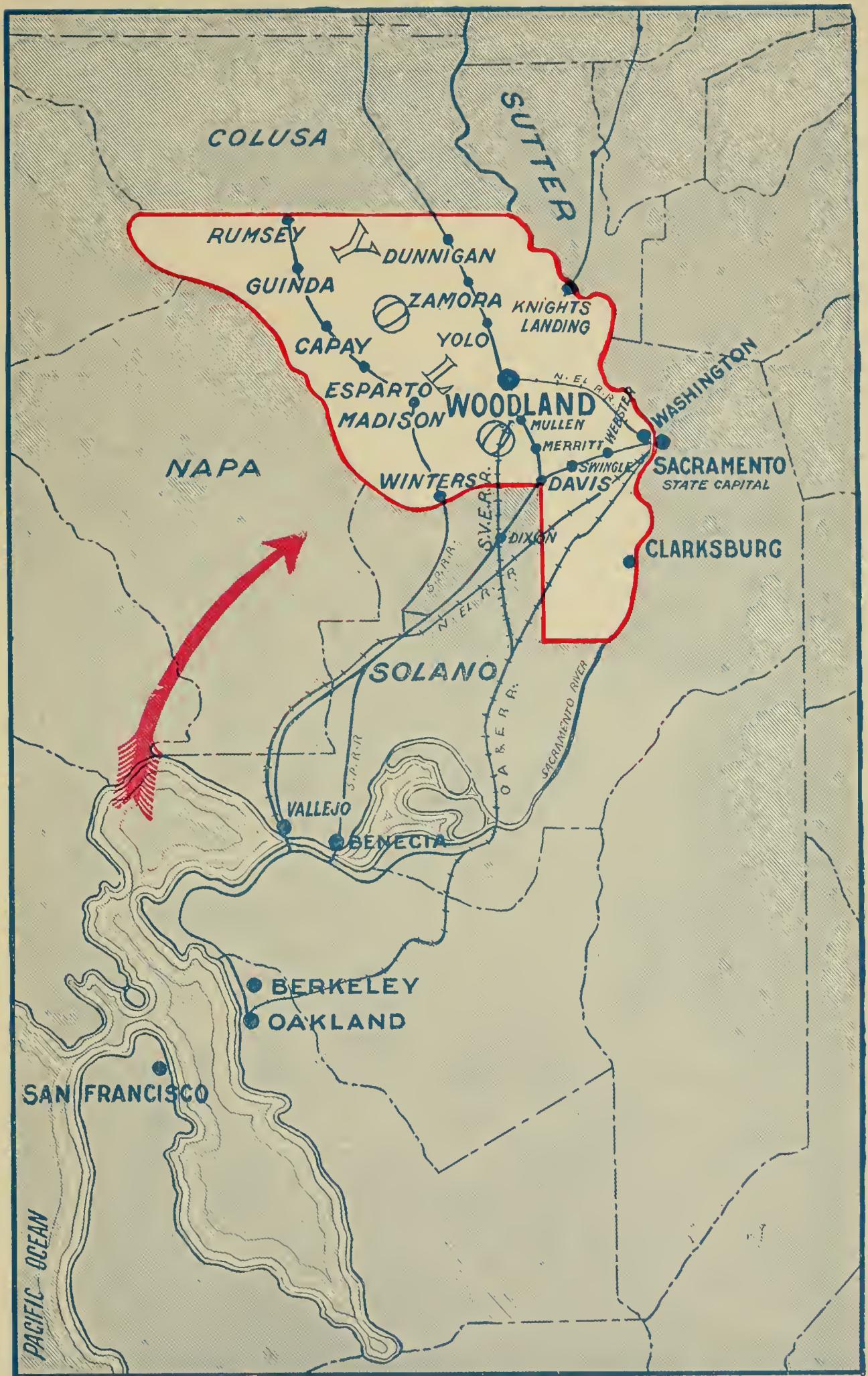
A reader anxious to ascertain additional facts about any community or condition will be served promptly and properly if an inquiry be addressed to

P D 8.2.

H. S. MADDOX, Secretary,

Yolo County Board of Trade and Panama-Pacific International  
Exposition Commission, Woodland, Yolo County, California.





This map shows the relative position of Yolo County to central California. Note the distance from Yolo to San Francisco and the bay cities, the nearness of Sacramento, the State capital, the transportation facilities, both river and rail

# YOLO COUNTY

## CALIFORNIA



Almonds as they appear while green. Almonds, limited by climatic demands to a small area in the United States, are one of Yolo County's big profitable crops











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