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HOOD RIVER, OREGON

VALLEY TRUNK WORK WILL BE PUSHED

The Joplin-Eldon Construction Co., contractors engaged in cutting the grade of the valley trunk of the Mount Hood Loop Highway over the Booth Hill unit, who have been maintaining a crew under extreme hardship the past 13 weeks because of the heavy snowfall and low temperatures, expect to make rapid headway with the advent of spring weather. R. J. Streicher, superintendent of the company, here last week with C. C. Seeley, resident state highway engineer in charge of the work, states that 40 men will be engaged on the task immediately. About a mile of the 5-mile stretch has already been graded. Unless weather conditions interfere, the entire grade, it is expected, will be cut by May.

Mr. Seeley states that contracts for the 12-mile unit in the Upper Valley and a 4-mile unit just south of the city will be let by the State Highway Commission February 21. He anticipates that the entire length of the trunk line should be graded by next fall. The unit just south of the city, because of the heavy rock excavation that will be encountered in the gorge of Hood river, will be the most difficult of the three, and although the shortest will be the most expensive to construct.

Non-Partisan Worker Active Here

A drive for local membership in the Non-Partisan League is indicated by activities here the past week of H. H. Scollard, publisher of "The Producers' Call," recently launched at Oregon City. Mr. Scollard, who Wednesday last week addressed the Pomona Grange at Pine Grove Thursday night, appealed to the local labor union for support of his new publication. Mr. Scollard, who denounced the congressional farmers' bloc, urged the local members of organized labor to join the farming interests of the valley in cooperative political action.

Weather Increases Readers

The weather conditions obtaining here since last November have increased the circulation of the county library to the point where the librarian, Mrs. Anne C. Haxby, has been unable to keep up with demands. At her solicitation the state library recently relieved the local book shortage, due to an unusual amount of finesse reading, by sending 300 volumes here.

OHI! MY BACK!

The Expression of Many a Kidney Sufferer in Hood River

A stubborn backache is cause to suspect kidney trouble. When the kidneys are inflamed and swollen, stooping brings a sharp twinge in the small of the back, that almost takes the breath away. Doan's Kidney Pills revive sluggish kidneys—relieve aching backs. Here's Hood River proof:

Mrs. A. T. King, 1210 Thirteenth Street, says: "My kidneys were in a bad condition and I could hardly do my housework, especially mornings. I felt run down and worn out and my back ached considerably. I had frequent headaches and my kidneys acted irregularly. I used Doan's Kidney Pills and they soon straightened out the trouble. The backaches and tired feeling left and my kidneys acted regularly again." Price 50c. at all dealers. Don't simply ask for a kidney remedy—get Doan's Kidney Pills—the same that Mrs. King had. Foster-Milburn Co., Mfrs., Buffalo, N. Y.

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BOWL AND BE HEALTHY

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410 OAK STREET

Ladies' Night—Wednesdays

Open 12 to 12 Weekdays

HEALTH

FUN

CALIFORNIA HAS NEW APPLE SECTION

(By A. D. Moe)
Pomona, Calif., Feb. 7, 1922.

We are in the garden spot of southern California. To me the orange section of Pomona, Riverside, Redlands and San Bernardino is the most beautiful part of the state I have seen. We took in all of these towns today except Riverside, going east of Redlands six or eight miles into the Yucaipa valley. Redlands at an elevation of 1,400 feet, grows citrus fruits. Yucaipa, at an elevation of 2,600 to 3,000 feet, grows deciduous fruits. Here we have a real competitor of the Riverside apples in the southland. Unlike the Watsonville district, which grows the cheaper Bellefleur and an inferior Newtown, Yucaipa grows the Winesap, Rome Beauty and Delicious which compares very favorably with the Watsonville and Wenatchee product, and the fruit is finding a ready sale near home at about the same prices as those from the northern states. They are even shipping to the eastern markets, while also supplying the southern markets of Arizona and Texas.

The Yucaipa valley is about six miles long by five miles wide, lying in the foothills of the San Bernardino mountains. A few miles to the east is Beaumont, a little higher elevation, and smaller area, also growing apples, while still farther east is Banning, the summit of the pass through which the highway to Imperial valley passes. Banning also raises some apples.

In the Yucaipa valley 5,000 acres of apples are coming into bearing, while 1,000 acres more will be set out this spring. The district also grows very fine cherries, peaches and pears. Raw land sells for \$300 an acre and bearing orchards \$800 to \$1,000. Irrigation is supplied by a limited gravity system, the water being stored in the mountains by reservoirs. In addition, many wells are being dug. Water is found almost uniformly at a depth of 330 feet, and rises in the casing 200 feet. It is apparently an inexhaustible underground lake. It is pumped by electric power, the well flowing from 65 to 150 inches. The water company is owned by the farmers, both gravity and well systems.

This is a new country. The first commercial orchards were planted on the desert mesa 12 years ago. The first good crop came in in 1919 and the 1921 crop is reported by the county horticulturist as follows: Apples, 600,000 packed boxes; 1,400 tons of culls; 400 tons of pears; 275 tons of peaches; 15 tons of plums; 20 tons of grapes, and 25 tons of cherries. The cherries compare favorably with the Oregon fruit, and find a ready sale in Los Angeles at 15 to 20 cents a pound. The Beaumont district is much larger, although short of water, and has only a fourth of the apple acreage of the Yucaipa district in trees.

The Yucaipa valley has a population of only about 1,200, including the town. The entire valley shows its newness. The farm houses are mostly of a temporary character, small buildings, and had a ready sale in Los Angeles at 15 to 20 cents a pound. The Beaumont district is much larger, although short of water, and has only a fourth of the apple acreage of the Yucaipa district in trees.

The packing is all done at the packing houses of the local cooperative association and other large dealers, none of the farmers as yet having their own equipment. The fruit is then hauled to market by truck, mostly to Los Angeles, 70 miles distant, over a paved road.

The large crop this year found the farmers mostly unprepared to handle it. Very little thinning was done, causing many small apples and a breaking down of many limbs, also a heavy drop from wind. The trees also show a lack of proper pruning and care. A meeting is being held this week to discuss methods of marketing, pruning, etc. A vinegar plant is also to be built to take care of the culls.

From the comparatively level plateau of the mesa which comprises this valley can be seen the orange groves and the city of Redlands in the distance, and also the lights of the city of Colton, 12 miles away, where an immense Portland cement plant is located.

California this year was the longest continued cold spell in the history of the fruit industry, according to the old inhabitants. The effect of the cold is very apparent as one travels along the many miles of orchards which line the highways, and in the dropping dead leaves of the more tender semi-tropical plants. Smudge pots have been used extensively and have saved much fruit and trees. Where not used, many of the young trees, especially lemons, are apparently killed, while the new growth on the larger trees resemble a forest touched by fire, the ends of the branches looking as if scorched by flames. The fruit has suffered more or less damage. How much will not be determined until it has been picked and inspected. Some orchards will have very little loss, while others are apparently heavy losers.

In the gardens, parks and yards of residences, delicate and tender plants and shrubs are killed. Long rows of evergreen hedges and border flowers present a brown, dead appearance, and many plants and shrubs of many years' growth will have to be cut back to the roots or replaced. Snow fell in all this district, and increased in depth on the roads into the mountain passes to a depth of five feet. The ground froze to a depth of two inches in the Pomona district.

However distressing this picture may seem, the frost damage is not so serious as it appears. It is the usual sight of blackened vegetation in the land of perpetual green that distresses. The flowers and shrubs killed will bloom and be green again next season. The fruit trees that are killed are almost entirely the young ones and only an occasional unprotected grove. The partial damage to the older trees will be pruned off and re-sprout only in a slightly diminished crop next year and the unfavorable season charged to the profit and loss account as one of the hazards that happen to any business undertaking. There is no discouragement to the citrus fruit industry or lack of confidence in the future.

Straub Boys Out of Jail

Arthur and Herbert Straub, recently sentenced to six months in jail and fined \$200 each on charges of manufacturing whiskey in the Upper Valley, have been released under bond. They have gone to work for a brother-in-law and have agreed to pay their fines and take care of their aged mother, said to be dependent on them.

Chamberlain's Tablets for Indigestion and Constipation

"The nicest and pleasantest medicine I have used for indigestion and constipation is Chamberlain's Tablets," writes Melard F. Craig, Middle Grove, N. Y. They work like a charm and do not grip or leave any unpleasant effect.

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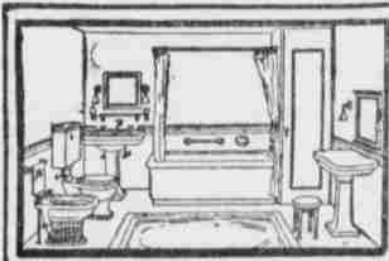
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In the cold weeks your chief enjoyment came from reading perhaps. Now you will want to behold anew the outdoor wonders of nature. Your eyes, as the poet so beautifully says, are the windows of the soul. They let in sunlight and pictures that please. Certainly you are not doing justice to yourself if you allow shutters of poor vision to rob you of their proper functioning.

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