

How Do You Spend Your Money

Are you doing it in a way to receive substantial benefit? Are you laying aside something for a "rainy day"? If not, you will never have a better time to begin than now. To get quickly started, begin the easiest way; come to

The United States National Bank

and open a Savings Account. Do not wait for a large sum, for it may never come; just deposit whatever you have to spare, no matter how small the amount. We will gladly assist you in getting started. Each pay day when you get your check, deposit a portion of it and remember it will draw 4 per cent from the date it is deposited. This bank is owned and controlled by local people.

N. K. WEST, President. WM. MILLER, V.-Pres.
T. J. SCROGGIN, Cashier. C. B. HARDING, Asst. Cashier.



Of the fact that an abstract is an absolute necessity when you purchase real estate. No matter how well posted you might be—you don't have a full history of the parcel, as you do when we make an abstract of it.

Accuracy guaranteed.
The Abstract & Title Co.
Foley Hotel Bldg

How About Your Home Water Supply?

IS IT PURE—PLENTIFUL—DEPENDABLE—ECONOMICAL? Supply your home with all the pure, clear, sparkling water you need—direct from well or spring, by the Perry System. No water tank to collect slime, mud or rust. Compressed air delivers fresh water under the pressure and in quantities you need. Automatic—economical in operation, easily installed. Water left in well until you need it—then drawn fresh.



Call and Get Copy of the Perry Book or let us send it to you. We want you to know all about the merits of this up-to-date system of water supply. The Perry System has more advantages than any other—is just what you need. It will give you water for drinking, kitchen, laundry, bath, barn, sprinkling and fire protection.

FOR SALE BY
BAY & ZWEIFEL.

Complete Equipment for Resetting and Repairing Rubber Buggy Tires

LA GRANDE IRON WORKS

D. FITZGERALD, Proprietor

COMPLETE MACHINE SHOPS AND FOUNDRY

Monuments

LATEST DESIGNS

Made in La Grande.

E. C. DAVIS

Concrete Blocks

Made in La Grande

Best Building Material

Known

Cor Greenwood & S' Ave.
La Grande.



LUMBER WILL NEVER BE CHEAPER.

than now. As you know, the lumber fit for milling is getting scarcer every year. Then why not begin building now and take advantage of the present market? Later on you will regret it. We have full supplies for high-grade lumber for both exterior and interior construction.

WENAHA LUMBER COMPANY

FRUIT SITUATION DISCUSSED

(Continued from Page 1.)

ness of producing will be more speculative than ever, and it then becomes a question of how much of a man's assets in land, time and money can be wagered on the roulette wheel of fortune. If cherries were of the same staple value as wheat, oats, cattle, sheep, etc., then the balance on the side of demand would be greater and the speculative side of supply would be less, as far as prices are concerned. We will therefore, settle down to a cool consideration of this big topic and endeavor to draw conclusions that are safe, sane and conservative.

In the first place one factor which aids greatly in determining the price of cherries is their quality. Where railroads and other means of transportation must be relied upon to ship fruit to those centers, where they can be canned and utilized in other ways, the question of the cherry's ability to stand the jars and jolts is a big factor. This year's crop was juicy. This condition was due to abundant rains in the spring. Nobody was responsible for that. It just rained and rained. When it came to shipping this fruit to Portland the Oregon Packing company was compelled to dump thousands of pounds of mushy, "leaky" fruit on the garbage heap. The loss in Lewiston, Idaho, alone ran in the neighborhood of 50,000 pounds. But the cherries were weighed in and the producer drew his check for the pounds indicated on the weight check. Who lost? The company. The company played big and lost, not because of a situation they could not handle, but because the cherry didn't have enough sinew, got sick on the road and collapsed. This entry naturally goes in to the expense column of the company and will lie dormant until the time comes to make new cherry contracts. Then what? By that time the reports from California might indicate that the great fruit state has a 98 per cent crop of 100 per cent cherries. How about the Grande Ronde valley? A little figuring will advise the company that the distance from California points to San Francisco is considerably less than from La Grande to Portland, hence less danger of loss through shipping.

It should be borne in mind that this possibility is not a prognostication of a real happening in 1904. It may happen and it may not, but it can happen and does happen. The experience to be gained from this year's crop, as far as the condition of the cherry is concerned, and its effect on the price must be this: Whenever the rainfall during the blossoming and growing period of the cherry is abundant, the fruit will contain much water, less sugar and will have a delicate skin and fibre. Hence, as soon as the cherry is bruised it begins to decay. One such cherry in a box will form a cluster of mould and destroy the contents of the box. A corollary to this will mean to the company: greater risk in shipping, bigger margin and closer contracts.

The older the cherry tree becomes, the less vigorous is the fruit, and the less jarring and bruising it will stand. Usually fruit from young, healthy trees can readily be distinguished from that of older trees by the firmness of the cherry and the thickness of the stem. What difference will this make? That if a district with many old trees has to compete with a district just coming into bearing the younger fruit is given the preference.

It should and will not be forgotten that a company of the proportion of the Oregon Packing company, with its experts, pigeonholes all the data relative to as big an undertaking as the one in this valley. Nor should it be supposed that they are waiting for this article to inform them about fruit. The enormous losses have created much activity and have set every conceivable agency in motion to forestall a similar loss. The company is constantly doing a lot of thinking. Every large concern has paid experts to balance conditions. They are looking after their end of the business. If they had undisputed control of the field conditions would be different. Where the potential loss is so great as in perishable fruit, the margin between the purchasing price of the green fruit, and the sale of the finished product must of necessity be great.

The object of this article is not to discourage a paying industry, but to benefit the man, who by reason of a bounteous crop and good returns, sees no profit in apples or other fruit and is laboring under the delusion of forty acres of cherrytrees laden with gold nuggets. Many have concluded that the Spitzzenburgs, the Newtons and Pippins, the Jona Van and Romons are unprogressive, stand-patters, miserable company, free traders and less. It's just like last year's election, the cherries happened to be the democrats and won hands down.

Apples were so widely and evenly distributed all over the country, that they were despised. Even the young boy didn't feel like putting any in the hay, because there was such an abundance. No step ladders were required to get into the apple bin and the price weights representing demand could not raise them off the low common level. This naturally gave rise to the idea that the Spitzzenburgs and Jonathans had lost their generalship as prize fighters in the market and are doomed as has been. It's a hasty conclusion. By reason of the general

freeze in California this spring, the demand for cherries naturally settled upon those localities where the frost had not affected them.

If people understood the great law of balance a little better, they would be cautious about committing themselves to a policy completely lopsided. If there was any certitude that the Oregon Packing company, or a competing company would offer the same prices year after year, regardless of distance and abundance, then there would be but one conclusion to draw. But there is no such certitude, and hence any radical departure from the condition which exists at the present time is like taking a 100 to 1 shot at a horse race.

The writer is mindful of an experience gained in a section of Illinois, a section close to both Chicago and St. Louis. Cherries were a mainstay for about seven years in that locality as long as the cherries were young and vigorous. But lack of care of the trees, ignorance in shipping, soon made those farmers a sorry lot of men. In two years' time nine-tenths of all trees were cut down.

If there are men who purpose setting out their total acreage in cherries, without the determination to make their cherries the best to be had, then they are defeating their own purpose. Acreage or number of trees are not the biggest factor. One man in La Grande's immediate vicinity has four-fifths of an acre in cherry trees. This year's crop amounted to over 13 tons. But to that statement there is this tale: careful pruning, intelligent spraying, cultivation of the soil and last, but not least, honest picking.

It is, moreover, a dishonest demand on the part of any man to expect as much for inferior fruit as for number one stock. Some will not admit an honest comparison. If they have as many pounds as their neighbors, but of inferior size, they expect the same price regardless of the fact that jobbers, wholesalers and consumers pay topnotch prices only for the best.

The question now presents itself: Should a man gamble his entire acreage or a greater portion in cherries? Or is it better to strive to get rich quickly, or lose all in one venture and feel better for having ventured and lost, than for not having ventured at all, that's the question? If a grower in a small way has ten acres of ground he might wager one on cherries. If he staked all on the reds and lost he would be dependent, for cherries grow but once a year and most of us eat three meals a day for 365 days.

If a farmer owning many acres wagered all, feeling that he could afford to wait five years for a real harvest, his net gain in the fifth year, divided by five wouldn't be such a startling profit after after figuring pruning, irrigating, spraying, (providing he does it) and taxes, which he cannot dodge. In the last analysis the average gain per acre is about the same on cherries as on other things, the difference being the amount of work. Now for the figures in this year's crop.

The total amount of cherries handled by the Oregon Packing company in the entire Grande Ronde valley this year hovers in the vicinity of 1,010,150 pounds. Of these 800,000 are Royal Anns and the remainder blacks. Twelve cars representing 274,415 pounds were shipped from Cove and La Grande to Portland, but a goodly portion of these shipments spoiled in transit. 2254 barrels or approximately 608,580 pounds are still in storage in the Grande Ronde Cash company's warehouse.

These figures do not include the pounds of black cherries handled by Stackland Brothers, of Cove. Another 200,000 pounds added to the total already given for the Oregon Packing company, would give a grand total for the valley of approximately 1,210,150 pounds. In money this would represent nearly \$37,000, divided among some 350 growers.

A word about the Oregon Packing company and we have finished. It must be said to the credit of that company that the fair treatment accorded the growers of this section, the promptness with which they paid all weight checks and the business they created in La Grande, has been the topic of much satisfactory comment among farmers. Dave Clark contributed a small share to this general satisfaction by his efficient, honest and energetic handling of the company's business at this end. All told it was a gold medal year in cherries for the growers. But be cautious.

It Can Be Relied Upon.
The American Drug and Press Association authorizes its members to guarantee absolutely Meritol Hair Tonic. It has no equal. It is wonderful remedy. A trial will convince you. Newlin Drug Co.

WE SELL
Pure Artificial Ice at 50c a hundred.
Pure river Ice at 30 cents a hundred.

Our Artificial Ice is made from pure Beaver creek water and is guaranteed as pure as the city water.

Please get your orders in before noon each day.

GRANDY
THE ICE MAN.

CHANGED TO A Better Beer

LEMP'S BEER ON DRAUGHT

Try FALLSTAFF, the King of all Beer

LOTTE'S BAR

1118 JEFFERSON AVE.

Annual Excursion

TO THE

SEASHORE

VIA



Tickets on Sale Aug. 21st.

Going limit August 23rd. Final return limit, Sept. 6th.

\$10.00 LA GRANDE TO NORTH BEACH

AND RETURN VIA PORTLAND.

Leave La Grande 8:45 p. m.
Arrive Portland 7:00 a. m.
Leave Portland via Steamer Potter 8:00 a. m.
Arrive North Beach 3:28 p. m.

Stopovers allowed on return trip
NORTH BEACH IS DELIGHTFUL IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

For full particulars ask

J. H. KEENEY,
AGENT

What School to Attend?

Are you asking yourself this question? The school that meets your demands is the school of your choice.

Write, call or phone for our catalog, that's the first step.

Baker Business College

PHONE 13L. HANSON & KINION, PROPS.



CLEANING A Great Industry

Our facilities for doing first class work are unsurpassed. Our establishment is equipped with the best and most modern appliances for doing all kinds of Cleaning Dying and Pressing, every department is

OPERATED BY EXPERTS

WHO THOROUGHLY UNDERSTAND THE BUSINESS. EVERY GARMENT THAT LEAVES OUR SHOP IS ABSOLUTELY CLEAN AND SPOTLESS. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. PRICES REASONABLE. COME IN AND SEE US.

THE WARDROBE