

If you are in favor of the Irrigation movement give it active support.

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Push and Boost for a Greater Ontario.

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PROFITS IN RASPBERRIES

Novel Method of Growing and Harvesting Crop - Easy to Handle.

Within a mile of the Ontario post office is a 40 acre patch of raspberries, probably the largest and finest one in the northwest, if not in the world.

It is a very profitable venture, has been in successful operation for 10 years, and continues to be a never failing producer. It is proving a big money maker for its owner, M. B. Sherman, who started this wonderful raspberry ranch and still operates it, he finding so large a one to be feasible, practical and profitable.

Mr. Sherman has discovered that the dry climate of southern Idaho combined with irrigation are conducive to the highest possible results in raspberry production, the dry climate in July and August making it possible to dry the raspberries on the vines before packing them for the market. Mr. Sherman has also discovered, or invented, improved methods whereby the Idaho rancher is able to produce raspberries on the largest scale of any man in the world and at the lowest cost of production.

IDAHO RASPBERRY NOTEWORTHY.
The southern raspberry has the noteworthy property of drying on the bushes. The raspberry here does not soften when ripe and shake off in the wind, or sour and mildew because of excessive moisture as in humid localities, but remains attached to the stem and dries, firmly attached to the bush. It is also a singular fact that when previous irrigation and culture have been proper, the quality of the fruit thus dried is not only equal but very superior in quality to the hand picked, evaporated product.

This is due to the fact that each berry remains on the bush till it has received the last possible particle of saccharine and other juices from the vine, and then it becomes dead ripe, and then in this rainless and almost dewless ripening period of July and August, in about two days these dead ripe berries are dry. The conditions are ideal and the product is much sweeter and richer than the hand picked goods, especially of eastern production.

METHOD OF TREATMENT.
As to the methods of treatment, it has been discovered and thoroughly demonstrated that it is practical under the foregoing conditions to harvest the dry berries by removing the branches bearing the fruit and threshing the berries off somewhat as you do beans.

First—In the spring, at any time after the frost is out and the ground is cultivated, the bushes are laid down. This is accomplished by two men with a long stout pole. The pole is pressed against the bushes bearing them over and downward to a reclining position, in which position they are secured permanently by means of a light wire stretched over the reclining bushes and secured at proper intervals by stakes driven into the ground. Two men should lay down two or three acres per day. The object being to prevent the new shoots, which spring from the ground annually, from intermingling with the old canes bearing berries, for apparent reasons. No further

special treatment is required till the berries are ripe and dry. Then the canes bearing berries are cut away close to the crown root. This is accomplished by means of a sled-like device with a blade attached to one runner. This is drawn by one horse and so guided that the blade passes over the reclining branches, completely severing them from the plant close to the root crown. Men follow the cutter, rolling the severed branches up into bundles and standing them up against the new growth to dry.

BERRIES THRESHED WITH FORK.
Four men and one horse cut and set up five acres per day. Next comes the threshing. As soon as the leaves and stems become perfectly dry (4 to 7 days after cutting) a team is driven into the field with a wagon bearing a flat bottomed rack with high sides. One man throws these dry bundles into the rack with a fork while two men on the rack thresh the berries out, using ordinary forks for falls. Three men should thresh and fan out three acres per day.

Each berry now appears with a stem attached. These stems are removed by passing the berries through a machine designed for the purpose at a merely nominal cost. The total cost of labor as above described does not exceed the ordinary cost of pruning out the old growth which is necessary annually when the hand picking method is employed.

It will therefore be seen that the practical effect of this method on the cost of production is to eliminate the cost of harvesting. About 8 to 10 cents per pound is saved in cost of production. By this method 2 cents per pound should cover the cost of production.

PLAN OF RASPBERRY RANCH.
Now, as to the general plan of a raspberry farm. The plants should be set 18 inches apart in the rows and rows 7 1/2 feet apart. This requires 4000 plants per acre.

Planting should be done in November, or in February or March. The life or usefulness of the black raspberry is about ten years.

It requires two men working six months to care for a 40-acre raspberry orchard, with two extra men during August. No spraying is necessary as there is no insect or fungous pests to fight.

The cost of the plants is from \$20 to \$40 per acre. One thousand pounds of dried fruit per acre should be realized annually. Prices vary from 15 to 20 cents per pound wholesale, with an average of 20 cents per pound. The cost of producing and harvesting a crop need not exceed \$20 per acre. These figures make a showing of \$180 per acre net annual returns, which Mr. Sherman has received for the past eight or more years from his 40-acre raspberry farm.

A trip to this remarkable raspberry ranch is worth any man's time to make. Mr. Sherman is enthusiastic in his work and is ever ready to give anyone interested in raspberry production the necessary details to make it a steady and sure money maker.

News From Fruitland

Gathered by Our Regular Correspondent—A Busy Week.

After having spent six weeks in Portland enjoying the mild weather of the sea coast and avoiding the severe winter here, A Zelar returned to Fruitland last Saturday.

Fruitland was the point of interest in the newspaper world last Monday as representatives of Evening Capital News, Ontario Argus, Ontario Optimist and Payette Enterprise were all on the ground.

The Fruitland postmaster is ready to engage a prize fighter to lick postage stamps.

Gov. Brady passed through town last Saturday and made a short talk at the depot.

Mr. Goss who has been employed at the Cornfix & Williams Nursery narrowly escaped serious injury one day last week when the horse he was riding fell on him.

Friends and neighbors of A. E. Barker have been cheerfully assisting him to complete his new house. We say let the good work go on.

Mrs. H. R. Flack is enjoying a visit with her brother, Mr. Welch, of Camas Prairie.

Mrs. Walter Burke of New Plymouth was a Fruitland visitor Monday.

On Monday of this week the prosperous little town of Fruitland, Idaho had its business section greatly augmented by the opening for business of the Fruitland State Bank, a financial institution capitalized at \$10,000. The bank stock of the new institution is now owned wholly by the farmers and fruit growers residing in and near Fruitland and the first day it was opened for business without any particular effort on the part of the management to secure deposits \$4,900 was brought in.

The new bank is housed in its own building, a handsome brick trimmed in red and conveniently fitted up for the banking business, containing a general business room fitted up with handsome cherry fixtures, a directors room, and a fine fireproof vault. Within the vault a 5500 pound manganese steel safe equipped with an up-to-date triple time lock provides adequate safety for the money entrusted to the care of this institution.

The board of directors of the new bank, C. H. Sargent, President; E. E. Hunter, Vice-President; J. O. Scritchfield, Cashier; and A. H. McConnell and C. W. Young are all prominent men on the bench and well known to the farmers and fruit growers with the exception of the cashier, J. O. Scritchfield who is comparatively a newcomer. He is a brother of A. P. Scritchfield of the Payette National bank and comes to southern Idaho with a broad experience in the banking line and with the recommendation for good banking ability from other communities he has served in the same capacity.

That the new bank has an excellent location can not be questioned. Fruitland, Idaho is located in the richest section of the Payette Valley, where for the past three years fruit lands have been making an almost phenomenal advance. Good alfalfa land suitable for orchard purposes is now selling at from \$200 to \$600 per acre while many instances are recorded the past year of \$1,000 per acre being offered for bearing orchards and being refused. Located in a section where conditions such as these obtain there can be no question as to the future of the financial institution.

The Ideal Country

Finds the Country of His Dreams and Will Roam no More

"Ten acres in southern Idaho or Eastern Oregon is worth more than 100 acres in Canada in my opinion and I spent 10 years in Canada ranching," stated M. D. Maloney of Nyssa when filing on some land near that place, having decided to make his home there.

Mr. Maloney has thoroughly investigated all the territory between Edmundson, Canada, and Nyssa, having made the trip on horseback, a distance of 15000 miles, and stopping at all the promising territory and at the places which were particularly boomed. He left Canada on July 12, reaching Nyssa November 1. Although 65 years of age Mr. Maloney does not look a day over 45 and is a magnificent specimen of manhood. He has never been on a spree in his life, and he attributes his fine health to the fact that he has lived since boyhood in the open air, riding horseback over the country in all kinds of weather and sleeping wherever night overtook him, but now having found the country of his dreams he has taken up a homestead and will spend the remainder of his days in Oregon.

Oil Well Started Up

Day and Night Forces Pushing the Drill Down.

The Ontario gas and oil well is going down now in double quick time, they have two shifts at work and are making good headway.

Mr. M. B. Kelley is in charge and A. W. Shira, an experienced driller from Pennsylvania is on the other shift. These men have worked together before and are making good headway.

The casing is down about 3200 feet and the indications are that the bottom of the hole will soon be reached.

This well has been proven a good producer of gas and oil and the management have every reason to expect a gusher.

Black Canyon Irrigation

Proposition Meets With Success—Work Being Pushed

John F. Christiansen was in Ontario Tuesday in the interest of the Black Canyon Irrigation proposition and received encouragement from several Ontario merchants.

While this canal is not in this immediate section it will cover land in Idaho a short distance south of Fruitland and from that point up to Emmett and back of Caldwell, between ninety and one hundred and twenty thousand acres all told.

The cost will be about \$63 per acre, which will include the damming of Payette Lakes as a reservoir, in using an abundance of water.

The land is as good as any in the Snake river bottom.

Several men have been in the city this week from Umatilla looking up land.

The Westfall Happenings

Some News From Our Neighbors up the Creek.

Major French and party was up viewing the Bully creek reservoir site. He need not worry there will be plenty of water to fill it.

Born to the wife of T. C. Stewart a 10 pound girl.

Next Friday evening at the school house the contest will be held to see which of the Westfall scholars will enter in the contest at Vale.

The masquerade ball on the 14th was a grand success the hall being crowded. Phillip forgot to give any prizes to the best sustained characters.

James Stingle took his cattle to Ontario to finish the winter.

Bill Kime has returned from a visit to Portland, Cottage Grove and other places. Bill says he had a good time, but it was tough on his pocket book.

J. D. Fariman ate so many crawfish one day last week that he was sick and was not able to attend the store. Jack says it was rheumatism.

Everybody is glad to hear Mrs. Chas. Johnson is up and around again.

Our valley was coated with six inches more snow and every one is looking at it with blue goggles on. The man who wrote "Beautiful Snow" had better not come up this way.

Judge J.G. Lamberson slipped and sprained his back and was laid up the past week.

The would be desperado, who shot up the Westfall school house the other afternoon needs a free ride to Salem. A year in the penitentiary would be too good for a man of that kind.

Hauling freight on sleighs has been renewed since the new snow.

Nearly everybody's hay seems to end the first of March. So spring had better be coming.

R. J. Jessie has moved his family near Ontario to live till he finds a new location. Dollars rolled right up hill to get to Jessie's pocket here at Westfall, any he had better stayed while things were coming his way.

Another Congressman

Oregon to have Another Congressman After Taking Census.

Oregon will be given another congressman, and possibly two, it is believed, after the coming census is taken. According to the basis of representation expected to be fixed by the new census, one congressman will be allowed for every 224,000 of population. The basis at present is one representative for every 192,182 of population. It is expected the coming census will show a population for the state of close to 800,000. This would give three congressmen and if the hopes of some are realized and the state is found to have 1,000,000 then four congressmen will be allowed.

Albert Hucker is in the city and underwent an operation Wednesday. The operation was a success. He is accompanied by his wife.

The robins are with us and spring cannot be far away. It will be welcome most any old time.

ORGANIZING DISTRICTS

Petitions Being Circulated and Meet With Hearty Approval.

The work of organizing water districts to cover the land between the Idaho state line and the Malheur river is being pushed in all directions, several men being out with petitions.

There seems to be no opposition to the district being organized.

The Owyhee Ditch Company will hold a stockholders meeting

on the 14th of March to take up the water contract recently submitted by the attorneys.

The High Line Ditch Company has a force of twenty to twenty-five men employed in the field staking out the ditch line and getting everything ready so that the construction work can go right ahead soon as the contracts are signed.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Washington and Others Born On the Same Date.

Tuesday, the 23d, the anniversary of the birth of Washington, who was born in 1732, was not generally observed in Ontario. Few flags were displayed and most of the stores were open for business.

There is one little band in Ontario, however, that can always be depended upon to remember the day by feasting, song and story.

Just who is responsible for these gatherings is not known, but Uncle Dick Rutherford is generally credited with it.

One thing is certain, however, Uncle Dick was the first man to start the celebration in Ontario, for when he arrived here there was no else located here. That was 26 years ago last September. A short time previous houses had been built here by the Morlits and Richardsons, but they had moved to other parts.

Uncle Dick got busy soon as he decided to locate, and started in the hotel business, which he conducted for nine years and then retired to his suburban home.

Always active and progressive he has always taken a leading part in the upbuilding of our city. He was the one to have an Odd Fellows lodge organized here and later started the movement that resulted in the elegant temple owned by that lodge.

But we started in to tell about

the entertainment held in the banquet room of the Odd Fellows hall.

A general invitation was sent out for all those who were born on the 23d, to gather with their friends and enjoy the day.

Those who were honored guests, are:

- R. C. Rutherford, aged 70.
- Mrs. John Weaver, 37 years.
- Mrs. Myers, 35 years.
- Miss Gertrude Ward, 31 years.
- Miss Ethel E. Milliken, 20 years.
- Mrs. C. E. Cromins, 31 years.
- Ula Graham, 6 years.

There was nothing formal in the arrangements. All brought baskets and enjoyed the feast.

The other members of the class presented Mr. Rutherford with a handsomely carved cane, made of Mexican wood, with the Mexican emblems engraved thereon.

On behalf of the Odd Fellows a handsome rocker was also presented.

Uncle Dick was in his happiest mood and made a neat little talk, thanking his friends for their presents and many kindnesses.

While the record shows Uncle Dick to have lived three score and ten years, served his country through the rebellion and the settling of the West, his heart is still young. His friends, and they are legion, hope that he may be permitted to enjoy a great many more anniversaries.

New Skyscraper.

Work on what will be the tallest building in this state, if not in the Pacific Northwest, will be begun March 10, when construction of the new Yeon building will start. The structure will be built at the corner of Fifth and Alder streets and will be 15 stories in height. Like the new skyscrapers now going up in Portland, the structure would be a credit to any city of the country.

The Carnation Club met at the home of Mrs. H. W. Clement this week and had a most enjoyable afternoon. Mrs. J. W. Miller was a pleasant caller during the afternoon.

Good Growth.

In Oregon last year 75,000 farms produced \$114,000,000. The assets of the farmers have practically doubled in the last five years and the next five years will see a much greater increase. There are about one million more farms in the United States than ten years ago and Oregon has more good land vacant than any other state.

Mr. R. L. Griffin is confined to his home by illness and Miss Hager is in charge of the store. She says they have just received some of the loveliest cloaks. Better call and see them.