

Picking Shows Big Slump In Size of Box Apple Crop

All Pacific Coast Districts Affected and Prices Are Expected to Show Upward Tendency--Any Surplus of Apples Is in Middle West and Eastern States, But Crop Report Shows Less Than 1910.

With the apple harvest of the United States about completed, accurate information as to the supply has materially changed the situation. This is particularly so in the box apple sections, where it is found that the crop is far short of even the most conservative estimates while the fruit was on the trees. Not only growers are now admitting that the box apple crop is exceedingly light, but buyers also. At Wenatchee, which was said to have a full crop this year, it is now stated authoritatively that the crop will be at least 800 cars short of last season's shipment. N. G. Gibson, one of the largest buyers of Wenatchee apples, says the crop there will be but from 50 to 60 per cent of that shipped last year. Yakima is in the same boat, with even a shorter crop, while the conditions in other apple growing sections of Washington are about the same. The government crop report for October gives Washington a total shipment of 3,900 to 4,000 cars, 1,000 from Idaho and a drop in the shipment over last year in California, while it estimates that there will be but 800 shipped from Oregon. Of the Oregon shipment, Hood River is now estimated to ship 300 or 350 cars at the outside. In fact, estimates of the local crop which were made earlier in the season have been very materially reduced since picking commenced, and the figures of 50 and 60 per cent of last year's crop have dropped to 40 per cent and lower. By some it is estimated that one-third of last season's output of 900 cars. According to the government report, since October 1 there has been some damage to the eastern crop by wind, this applying especially to New York state and Michigan. The loss in New York state on account of the wind was sustained chiefly on Baldwin, Ben Davis, Russet, and some Greenings. The damage is estimated at 10 to 15 per cent of the crop. Some damage by wind was also caused in Ohio, particularly in the northern part of the state, along the lake.

UNDER THE NEW APPLE TREE

By Samuel G. Blythe

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I was at breakfast in a restaurant at Portland, Oregon.

"Walter," I said, "bring me a couple of apples."

He brought me two on a plate. They were very ordinary apples; not like the Hood River apples I had bought in the east.

"Those are not Hood River apples," I said. "Get me a couple of those fine Spitzburgs."

"These are the best we have," the waiter replied. "We don't get any of those fancy Hood River apples here. They send them all east and to England."

Pretty soon the manager of the hotel came along. He was an old friend. "How is it," I asked, "that I can't get a Hood River apple here, when Hood River is only sixty-five miles from Portland?"

"You can't get them because we can't get them," he said. "All the best Hood River apples go to the markets in the east and abroad. They don't sell them to us."

Next morning I took the train out to Hood River to look over this region where they held their fruit for the effete east instead of taking advantage of the short haul and selling it at home.

The Hood River Valley begins at the village of Hood River and runs twenty miles, north and south, to Mt. Hood. It is six or seven miles wide, and is split into two uneven parts by the mountain stream called the Hood river, which empties into the Columbia at the village. Village and valley together have a population of between six and seven thousand people, of whom twenty-five hundred live in the village; and there are seven thousand acres of it set out to apple trees.

Those are about all the statistics necessary at this time, and it is well enough to get them out of the way early. When you go into a hotel in New York and order an apple, costing from twenty-five cents to half a dollar, and the waiter brings you a big red Spitzburg without a blemish, regal on a silver salver and having on its ruddy sides, in yellow, the name of the restaurant—grown, apparently, on the skin—that is a Hood River Spitzburg. If it is an especially fine one it may cost you seventy-five cents. A man out in Hood River grows those apples for the hotel. When the autumn sun is beginning to turn the apples to that deep and beautiful red, he pastes pieces of paper on the sides of the best of the lot. Those pieces of paper have the restaurant name on them, with the letters solid and the spaces around them cut out. The sun ripens and colors the apples, but it does not touch the spots covered by the paper letters. These remain yellow, and when the apple is ripe and red the apparent miracle has been worked and each apple has the name on its red side. That is but an example of the fanciest kind of fancy apple growing. Pictures of men are grown on the apples in the same way. It is an old scheme, and is merely cited to show that the raising of fancy apples is at its height in this Hood River country. They have it down to a science, and by a system of supervision and packing

and marketing, which will be described, they have established a quality, made a brand stick, in all the markets of the world.

Apples have been grown in the Hood River Valley for many years. The original settlers of that country set out a few apple trees with no particular reference to varieties, to have some apples for home use. Gradually it was noticed that certain kinds of apples came to the highest perfection there, under those peculiar soil and climatic conditions; and in the course of years the orchards were specialized. For instance, the Spitzburg and the Newtown Pippin are the better Hood River varieties. To be sure, they grow fine Jonathans there, and many other varieties, but the Spitzburg and the Newtown are more sought for, and consequently more profitable.

Within the past ten years the development has been very rapid. Old orchards have been bought and rejuvenated. New orchards have been set out. Ground used formerly for the famous Hood River strawberries has been planted to trees, although the strawberries are in great demand and the crop is worth about two hundred dollars an acre. Now the valley is filled with men who, anxious to get back to the land, have come there and bought or set out orchards, and are waiting for their crops or realizing their profits.

Every man who lives in a city and who was born in the country—as most of the men who live in the cities were—has, away back in his head, the back-to-the-land obsession. It demonstrates itself in many ways—in the purchase of farms, in the buying of country places, in going into the chicken and the fruit businesses; and generally those who go back to the land wish they hadn't and those who can't wish they could. The flat-dweller reads stories of men who make money with orange groves, with prune orchards, in apples, grapes, plums, pecans and whatnot; and the boosting organizations in the west, where the opportunity is held to be greater, see to it that the stories sent out are alluring. The flat-dweller gets the fever. He saves his money and buys a place—somewhere, anywhere. Then he loses or wins, according to his luck and his own ability; just as he loses or wins in any other enterprise whatsoever.

Now of all the allurements that come to the back-to-the-land yearner none is more fascinating than growing apples. Here is the proposition, fostered by the booster stories: You buy five or ten acres of land, set them out to apple trees and in five or six years the trees begin to bear. Then—presto!—all you have to do is to pick your apples every fall, live out of doors and make a fine, big living.

It was with a view to finding out just what opportunities there are for just such people as are yearning to get back to the land that I went to Hood River. I went into the matter thoroughly and herewith is set down what I found out, based on talks with men who have been in Hood River for years and have bearing orchards; with men who have

just arrived there and are at the preliminary work; with college men who have gone there for a career in fruit growing; with professional men who have gone there to spend the rest of their life out of doors at a profitable employment; with real estate men with orchards to sell; with the managers of the selling combination; with the independents and with the business men of the village—nearly fifty in all.

After making this investigation I have no hesitation in saying that any man of good ability, of capacity for work, who has an aptitude for the work and has five thousand dollars in cash, and who is prepared to work hard and long before he begins to get his profits, can make a success of apple growing in Hood River and some other districts. It will not be easy. It entails hard work, many discouragements and some setbacks. It is no Eldorado where all there is to be done is to set out the trees and, in the full course of time pick the golden apples.

There is another and the most important point of all that must be made—that is, the man who invests in an orchard in Hood River must go there himself, take personal supervision, live with and in his orchard, attend to the work himself and keep watch all the time.

There are alluring advertisements of fruit property that can be bought and planted and tended for you, you remaining at your usual work until the trees are in bearing and then quitting and going out to sit under their umbrageous shade and catch the dollars as they drop. That is all bosh. If any man wants to get back to the land and make a success of an apple orchard he must make a success of it himself. He cannot delegate the work, for if he does the work will not be done properly. Bringing an apple orchard into full bearing is as exacting an enterprise as raising a child. It must be done by the party of the first part.

The absentee landlord will not get the worth of his money. He cannot be in one part of the country attending to his work and have people raise apples for him in another. They won't raise them. When you are bringing an apple orchard or any other kind of an orchard into bearing you must be on the spot—right there, nursing the trees and cultivating them and spraying them and attending to the pick and pack. Otherwise you lose. The beautiful vision of retiring to the orchard and resting luxuriously on the porch while the trees grow money for you does not work out. It is a business, not a beneficence of Providence, and it takes personal supervision. When I was in the Hood River valley I saw two orchards. One was of twenty acres, on one side of the road with trees five years old; the other was a fifty-acre tract, on the opposite side of the road. The twenty-acre tract trees were spindling; some of them were dying, some were ragged and untrimmed, and the ground was not cultivated between the rows. The other tract was filled with sturdy trees that seemed a year or two farther along; there wasn't a lump of dirt as big as a quarter in the ground and the trees were beautiful.

"That tract," said one of the men with me, pointing to the twenty-acre orchard, "belongs to a gentleman who lives in Spokane. He has it worked for him. The trees are five years old."

"How old are those trees?" I asked, pointing to the tract on the other side of the road.

"Five years."

"What makes the difference?"

"Why," replied my guide, "the man who owns those good trees is here. He gives them his personal attention. He is on the ground. The other man isn't here. That's what makes the difference."

Wherefore, rule number one for intending apple growers is: You must do the work yourself. Otherwise you will not win.

When the old farmers who had wheat farms in this valley found that certain kinds of apples grew to perfection there, although given no particular care, the word went out that Hood River was the place to grow good fruit. It had long before been discovered that two or maybe three crops of strawberries could be raised, and small tracts had been taken up by strawberry growers, who mostly utilized the land on the west side of

Dedication New School Big Day For Barrett

With Fair Weather and Large Attendance Handsome New Building Is Formally Opened--Prominent Educators Address Assemblage On Important School Questions--Luncheon For All.

With the fairest of fair weather, and the county and city school faculties, teachers, bright faced pupils, the local school board and many visitors in attendance Barrett's handsome new school house was appropriately and officially dedicated Saturday to the purpose of housing the young idea that wants to shoot.

The new building, which is the third built on the same location, is indeed a credit to the valley. Built of brick and concrete the structure is three stories high, its dimensions being approximately 70x40 feet. The first story, which is partly a basement, is equipped with a large inside play room, modern lavatories, running water, a plant that both heats and ventilates the building with a device for controlling the temperature in each particular room. The building is lighted throughout by electricity. The approach from the ground to the class rooms is made by wide stairways both in front and in the rear. On both sides of the corridors there are roomy apartments for the wraps of the scholars of each room. In all there are four class rooms fitted up with all the modern school room appliances, and on the second floor there is also an office for the principal and room for the school library. The inside of the building is finished in a light graining in imitation of natural wood. Everything is bright and new, even to the national flag displayed on a high staff over the center of the building.

Not the least interesting feature of the occasion was a picture of the first school building built in 1878 in which appear a number of Hood River's well known men and women—the boys in homespun and the girls in pig-tails and dressed in the fashion of the time. With them is Henry Howe, who was their instructor. As barbers were no doubt scarce in those days Mr. Howe is depicted

with chin whiskers and a second glance is necessary to recognize him. The first Barrett school house was the second to be built in the entire valley and it is recorded that there was considerable opposition to its erection. A second and larger building was built in 1898 which became too limited in its accommodations, making it necessary to build the substantial and commodious building just completed. This was erected under the direction of F. C. Sherrill, F. H. Miller and G. H. Robbins, the present school board, the work being done by Strauchman & Slavin. The teachers are Mrs. McLaughlin, principal; Miss Black, 7th and 8th grade; Miss Buchanan, 4th, 5th and 6th grade and Mrs. Steel, primary department. Miss Peterson has charge of the East Barrett school.

The exercises Saturday were held morning and afternoon under the direction of County School Superintendent C. D. Thompson. The morning exercises were opened by the singing of America, followed by a recitation given by a little tot in the primary grade and appropriate remarks by Mr. Thompson. Miss Howard then recited an interesting story of Lincoln's Gettysburg proclamation and Miss Alma Trenton of the state Normal school delivered a lecture to the teachers on the subject of introducing art study in the primary grades.

After a bounteous and appetizing luncheon a picture of the school house with its group of visitors was taken and later Prof. A. B. Cordley of the Oregon Agricultural College gave an interesting talk on introducing the study of agriculture in the schools. As a fitting close to the exercises Rev. E. A. Harris delivered the dedicatory address in which he brought out the great benefits of education and the importance of adequate and efficient educational institutions.

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Two Men Are Shot In Quarrel With Officers

John Ryan and Frank Robinson In Resisting Arrest Laid Low By City Marshal Lewis--Lewis Adams Also In Melee, Placed In Jail. Ryan Dangerously Wounded but Robinson will Recover.

In a mix-up Saturday night between City Marshal Lewis and Night Officer Hickox and John Ryan, Frank Robinson and Lewis Adams over the arrest of Ryan, who it is claimed was intoxicated, the latter was shot through the abdomen sustaining an injury that may prove fatal, and Robinson received a bullet through his shoulder. Ryan and Robinson were taken to the Cottage hospital and Adams to jail. Robinson, it is claimed, will recover and an operation which was performed on Ryan Sunday afternoon has so far been successful and it is now thought that he may recover.

The shooting occurred near the Fashion stables where Lewis and Hickox attempted to re-arrest Ryan after he had been rescued from Hickox by Robinson and Adams.

According to the story of the officers Hickox arrested Ryan on the street for disorderly conduct and was proceeding to the city jail with him. The man was too strong for the officer and he called on Robinson and Adams, who were standing near by, to assist him. They were friends of the arrested man and after asking that he be turned over to them, which was refused, are said by Hickox to have aided in his escape. The night officer, unable to cope with the men, telephoned to City Marshal Lewis.

Before the arrival of the marshal, the men proceeded down Oak street. When near the corner of Front, they entered the livery barn of the Fashion stables, challenging any officer that might interfere with them. When the marshal and the night watchman came to the scene, the men had entered the harness-room of the livery stable and defied the officers to touch them.

Lewis and Hickox entered the room, but Hickox was overpowered

and in the hand-to-hand fight Marshal Lewis' club was wrested from him. He called to the men to desist, threatening to shoot, and when they continued to fight he opened fire, emptying four chambers of his revolver.

The affray had only one witness, George Fortune, an employe of the Fashion stables, who was in the barn at the time. He was called on by the officers for assistance, but because of fear of being injured by shots, fled and locked himself in the office of the building. Ray Shimmerhorn, another employe of the livery company, was in the basement of the barn, where he was attending to the horses. He did not know of the shooting until he heard the shots fired. Immediately he rushed to the main floor of the building and, hitching a team to a wagonette, with the aid of the officers, removed the men to the Cottage hospital, where their injuries were attended.

New Restaurant Opened
Harry Coleman has opened a restaurant in the basement of the Broadway building, which he has had newly fitted up, and is now serving meals at all hours. Having formerly been engaged in the business he is prepared to give the public good and economical service, and is already securing considerable patronage. In addition to the regular restaurant business weekly meal tickets are issued at reduced rates.

M. E. Church Services
Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching services at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Theme: morning, "The Greatest Thing in the World," evening "The Question of a Frightened Jailer." Junior League at 3 p. m. Epworth League at 6:30 p. m. Crayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. All are cordially invited to attend these services. W. B. Young, pastor.

State Apple Show Prizes Are Many and Valuable

Oregon Horticultural Show in Portland Nov. 15th to 18th Announces Large List of Premiums--Cash, Fruit Trees, Medals and Other Inducements Liberally Offered Exhibitors.

The premium list of the State Horticultural Show, which takes place in Portland Nov. 15th to 18th, just issued, shows a wide and valuable list of prizes. The main features of the list are as follows:

DISTRICT PRIZES
The first two prizes are open to any commercial club, fruit growers' association, grower, or any combination of growers in any county or district.

100 Box Lots—Class 100; total cash, \$500—Not less than three varieties and not less than 25 boxes of each variety must be shown. These should be in commercial sizes from 88 to 112.

First prize, cash \$250, and gold embossed medal.
Second prize, cash \$125, and silver medal.
Third prize, cash \$75, and bronze medal.
Fourth prize, cash \$50.

50 Box Lots—Class 50; total cash, \$275—Not less than three varieties and not less than 15 boxes of each variety must be shown.

25 Box Lots—Class 25; total cash, \$137.50—Not less than three varieties and not less than 15 boxes of each variety must be shown.

10 Box Lots—Class 10; total cash, \$55—Not less than three varieties and not less than 15 boxes of each variety must be shown.

5 Box Lots—Class 5; total cash, \$27.50—Not less than three varieties and not less than 15 boxes of each variety must be shown.

2 Box Lots—Class 2; total cash, \$11—Not less than three varieties and not less than 15 boxes of each variety must be shown.

1 Box Lot—Class 1; total cash, \$5.50—Not less than three varieties and not less than 15 boxes of each variety must be shown.

and not less than 25 boxes of each variety must be shown. These should be in commercial sizes from 88 to 112.

EVENTS OF WORLD WIDE INTEREST PICTURED FOR BUSY READERS



News Snapshots Of the Week
James B. McNamara was placed on trial in the Los Angeles county (Cal.) courthouse, charged with the actual dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times newspaper building, which disaster cost the lives of twenty-one men. McNamara's brother, John J., is accused by Detective William J. Burns, who trailed him across fifteen states to get evidence, with having instigated the destruction of the Times building. Clarence Darrow, who won the Moyer-Haywood case, is defending J. B. McNamara, opposed to District Attorney Fredericks. Booth Tarkington, the author, and his wife separated, with divorce proceedings in prospect. Cornelius N. Bliss, secretary of the Interior in 1897 and four times treasurer of the Republican national committee, died in New York city. He was seventy-eight years old. Calbraith P. Rodgers, the aviator attempting a coast to coast flight in an aeroplane, broke the long distance record of 1,233 miles held by Harry N. Atwood.

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