

Local Crop This Season About 70 Per Cent Full

Exception Taken to Report of Department of Agriculture, Which Gives Oregon and Washington Full Crops--Growers Find Conditions Favorable Here for Heavy Yield Next Season.

Although the crop report of the department of agriculture, just published, gives the apple production in Oregon and Washington as 100 per cent of a full crop this year, local growers take exception to this phase of the report so far as Hood River is concerned, declaring that the crop this year is only between 60 and 70 per cent of a full yield.

The crop reporter of the department of agriculture gives apple production 69.9 per cent of a full crop as compared with 62.4 per cent last year and 51.3 for a ten year average. Quality is placed at 83, against 78.2 last year and 72.1 in 1910.

Apple production in both Oregon and Washington equals 100 per cent of a full crop this year; California, 90 per cent; the far western group, 91.7, he says.

In the average yield of all crops combined, Oregon is 116 as compared with last year.

Local growers declare that what a full crop for Hood River valley means was illustrated two years ago, when the yield per acre averaged 425 boxes. This year the average will be materially less than this, the only one of the standard varieties to have a full crop being the Newtowns.

Growers here are not lamenting the fact that the yield is not a full one, however, in view of the fact that market conditions this year are less favorable than they have been in other seasons because of the unprecedented yield in all other apple producing sections. In view of the crop conditions here this year they are anticipating a more nearly full crop next season if weather conditions are favorable. Few of the standard varieties having produced a big yield this year, it is anticipated that the trees will be in proper condition to produce a large yield next season. C. R. Bone, one of the oldest growers in the valley, says:

"In reporting a full crop for Oregon and Washington the department of agriculture has probably been reckoning on the wrong basis by not taking into consideration the considerably increased acreage of bearing trees this year. These have been sufficient to bring up the total production but the yield in general has probably not been over 70 per cent.

"Next year the prospects should be favorable for a full crop, however, and I believe that the million-box crop predicted early this season may become an actuality next year."

That the apple crop in Washington has not come up to earlier predictions is indicated by a report from Wen-

atchee which states that the apple crop of that valley this season will not exceed 3750 cars. Early estimates placed the crop at 4500 to 5000 cars. The shipping season is now practically over and less than 3000 cars of fruit have been moved. However, it is estimated by buyers that 700 or 800 carloads of fancy apples remain to be shipped. The car shortage on the Great Northern Railway is now interfering with shipping and rain has hurt harvesting operations for two weeks.

An interesting statement was issued by leading shippers showing that more Wenatchee fruit went to foreign markets this season than ever before. England will use at least 350 carloads and Australia will receive over 500 carloads of Wenatchee apples. South Africa will take 300 carloads and Canada 500 carloads. Practically half of this year's crop made up foreign shipments as compared with less than a fourth any previous year. Wenatchee growers are now bending every effort to further cultivate a market in Europe, ahead of competing districts.

LOCAL TRANSFERS OF REAL ESTATE

Katherine Vreeland and husband to A. Welch, eight acres south of town.

United States to Alexandre Leroux, lots 1, 2, 8 and 9, (homestead) near Mt. Hood.

David M. Jackson to John Elder, 120 acres on East Side.

Humphrey Pugh to O. P. Dabney, lot A, South Addition, Hood River, \$100.

J. H. Ferguson to Willis H. Pullen, lots 15 and 16, block 2, Park Addition, \$450.

J. M. Culbertson Suggested The election of Woodrow Wilson to the presidency has caused great activity among local Democrats who have in view gathering some of the plums that are to ripen in Hood River with the terms of office now held. The postoffice job is the most attractive, as it now pays \$2600 annually. J. M. Culbertson, a prominent Democrat of the city, who led the fight for the election of George E. Chamberlain and Governor West, is being groomed for the position.—Oregon Journal.

Mrs. O. T. Wedemeyer and children and Mrs. A. A. Wedemeyer left Friday for Palo Alto, Cal., where they will spend the winter.

Huge Engine Clears Acre of Raw Land Every Day

Something distinctly new and decidedly effective as a land clearing device has just been put in operation for the first time in the Northwest by F. J. Patterson of this city, who is clearing and developing a large tract in the eastern part of the county about eight miles from town.

The device, which is said to perform herculean feats in clearing the land of roots, stumps and brush, was invented in Germany and a mechanic was brought from that country especially to construct the one which is now in operation on Mr. Patterson's place. Simply stated, it consists of four huge plows mounted on wheels, the whole weighing about 3,000 pounds. The plows are automatically reversible and are dragged back and forth across the tract by donkey engines stationed one at each end of the field.

Some idea of the effectiveness and speed with which this device operates may be obtained when it is stated that it clears and plows approximately an acre a day.

In preparing the land for treatment only the big stumps are removed. The brush and smaller trees are then slashed and burned. This done and the machine is ready to do its work. At present it is working across a ten-acre tract and is clearing and plowing two furrows 660 feet in length.

The four 16-inch plows are mounted in pairs, each of the pairs being on opposite sides of the axle. One set are right-handed plows, the others left-handed. Upon reaching the end of a furrow the plows are reversed by

the tension of the other cable and the donkey engine at the opposite side of the tract drags the device in that direction.

The apparatus not only uproots all trees and brush but plows furrows from 18 to 20 inches in depth.

After the plows have done their work the cables of the donkey engines are attached to a large harrow. This not only smooths the earth, but removes the roots and other debris, preparing the land for planting.

DEDICATION OF NEW CHURCH ON DEC. 8

The Asbury Methodist Episcopal church will be dedicated Sunday morning, December 8. Bishop Richard Joseph Cooke, D. D. L.L.D., the great scholar and orator of Methodism, will preach the dedicatory sermon. In the evening Dr. Benjamin Young, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church of Portland will preach.

Next Sunday the services will be held as usual. Sunday School at 10 a. m. Preaching service at 11 a. m. Theme: "Broken Vows." Epworth League at 6:30 p. m.

All are cordially invited to these services.

Claude Thompson, who has been employed in the office of J. H. Heilbronner, has accepted a position at the Oregon Agricultural College and will probably spend the winter there.

TICKET PROPOSED BY HEIGHTS CLUB

At a meeting of the Heights Development Club held the last of the week a ticket for the city election to be held December 3 was proposed and accepted. The ticket as a whole was presented to the meeting and on motion of Neil Evans that it be accepted a verbal vote was taken. Mayor E. O. Blanchar was endorsed for re-election; George W. Dimmick was endorsed as a candidate for city recorder and for councilmen the following were endorsed: James Stranahan, W. H. Taft and W. J. Baker.

Two of the candidates endorsed for councilmen are the same as those nominated on the Republican and Democratic tickets at the recent city primary election. These two are James Stranahan and W. H. Taft. J. M. Schneitzler was the third candidate for councilman nominated at the recent primaries. For his name that of W. J. Baker was substituted by the Heights Club. Mr. Baker was appointed councilman several weeks ago to serve out the unexpired term of L. H. Huggins.

For the position of city recorder the club endorsed George W. Dimmick. This places a new candidate in the field for that position. H. L. Howe, the present recorder, having been nominated on both Republican and Democratic tickets in the recent primary election.

Resolutions were passed petitioning the city council to publish an itemized statement of all fees received by the city surveyor in the past two years on public and private contracts for city improvements.

Marketing Agreement Is Urged By H. F. Davidson

Co-operation in Supplying Market's Demands Necessary if Prices Are to Be Maintained at Growers' End--Extension of Retailing Season Recommended in Order to Increase Consumption.

Declaring that co-operation between the competing fruit districts of the Northwest is absolutely necessary if demoralization of the markets is to be avoided and good prices obtained for fruit in future years, H. F. Davidson delivered an address at the Spokane Apple Show which struck a responsive cord. Other apple men spoke along the same line and the result was that an effort is to be made next month to effect a working arrangement between the leading sections.

In summing up his address, which is too lengthy to reprint in full, Mr. Davidson said: "It is fair to assume that a financial success can be made in growing apples only by experts who have orchards in favored sections; grow the right varieties and use scientific methods in growing and handling the apples and then market the fruit through the right channels, but no amount or kind of storage houses, neither can the transportation companies nor shippers save from financial disaster the many acres of apples already planted on land better adapted to growing hay, grain or other farm crops than for growing apples, and in order to win success in this business growers, shippers and transportation representatives must confer together frequently, work in harmony, and economize in every possible particular without sacrificing the quality of the goods nor the service rendered."

Cost of Production Discussing the cost of production and the amount that must be netted back to the grower, Mr. Davidson gave some illuminating figures as follows:

"Down at Hood River it is generally conceded that the cost of producing a box of first-class apples by economical growers and putting it on board the cars is about 60 cents; that land worth from \$150 to \$250 per acre raw and considered good orchard land stands the apple grower at \$1000 to \$1500 per acre with an orchard of eight years old capable of bearing average full crops of fruit and equipped with necessary buildings for living in and handling the crop and the necessary teams, tools and equipment, but to be conservative, put the valuation at \$1000 per acre fully equipped (which is a price lower than the average orchardist wishes to admit as the real value of his property) and with money worth seven per cent interest and allowing a depreciation of three per cent by calculating that apple trees will bear not less than 33 aver-

WOMEN VOTERS HERE MUST BE SWORN IN

In behalf of those interested in getting out a representative vote of the women at the coming election, A. W. Onthank appeared before the council Monday evening and inquired what arrangements were to be made to have the women register. It was somewhat of a surprise when City Attorney Derby gave it as his opinion that every woman who votes next month must be sworn in by six freeholders. The registration books closed before the general election and cannot be reopened until two years hence, he stated. Arrangements will be made to swear in properly qualified women who care to vote.

SWAPS WHEAT FARM FOR ORCHARD HERE

D. L. Wyde of Culver, Crook county, has exchanged his 329-acre wheat ranch located on Opal Prairie half a mile from Culver for the ten-acre improved fruit farm of J. A. Hodges in the Belmont district.

The deal was consummated last week, at which time Mr. Hodges and family moved to Culver, while Mr. and Mrs. Wyde took possession of their new place here. The latter has seven acres set to trees and strawberries. Both places which figure in the exchange are improved with houses and farm buildings.

C. D. Thompson is spending the week at Portland, where he is assisting at the Land Products Show.

UNION NEARLY DONE AT WHITE SALMON

The big 69x100 building for the White Salmon Fruit Growers' Union is nearly completed. It is all enclosed, and the elevator for lifting stock to the second floor is being put in.

The main ground floor supply room is 60x52, with an office at the northwest corner. Back of this supply room is the apple room, 60x32, with an average height of 20 feet. This is a frost-proof storage room, unless the weather should drop a few degrees below zero, when a heater or two could be moved in. It is tightly sealed, double boarded, double papered, and has an air space. It is well ventilated. With a second floor put in, which is possible, the room has a capacity of 9,000 boxes.

The second floor is 60x52 and will be used for warehousing feed, hay and other supplies. The loading and unloading platform is on the north side and is protected from rain. There is also a door at the west front.—Enterprise.

fruit at 50 cents to \$1 per box less or that they can buy cheaper on the auction market.

"The transportation companies cannot be criticized for this condition, for it would only indicate that the fruit is already moving too rapidly to the markets.

"Don't blame your neighbor because he is told that you are offering your fruit for less than he offers his and you are told that he is offering his for less than you offer yours, with the result that in the case of Jonathans and other early maturing varieties which must be marketed early there soon gets to be a scramble for orders, and when there are none, large shippers patronize the auctions, which are considered the dumping grounds for surplus stocks; the prices realized are advertised to all the fruit world, and the business is demoralized at somebody's cost. Who? The grower.

Shouldn't Hold Early Fruit

"There is no question about the low prices prevailing having a big influence on the consumption of apples, and it will be necessary for the visible supply to be reduced to the extent that holders can see a prospect of selling their product at a material advance over present market prices if the original cost of the fruit is paid back to the growers on this season's crop

"I am also of the opinion that to put the early maturing varieties in cold storage to hold them beyond their natural season, and later force them on the market in competition with the later maturing kinds only prolongs the agony, increases the cost and will not benefit the grower, except in the seasons of a shortage of the later keeping kinds.

"We also thoroughly believe that storage at the point of production is far preferable to storage in market centers, for the presence of large stocks of perishable goods in market centers has a very depressing effect; the goods are in sight of the dealers; they know that they must be marketed or perish, and that as an alternative to allowing them to decay, the cost cannot be considered and the fruit will be sold at any obtainable price to make the loss as low as possible.

Must Extend Season

"It has been estimated that the possible yield of apples in the U. S. and Canada from orchards now growing will exceed 100,000,000 barrels, or half a million carloads, a little more than double this year's yield, and in order to consume the crop each one of 100,000,000 people will have to eat an average of about 2 1/2 apples per day during the five months of the apple eating season. If this be accomplished, it can be done only by keeping a sufficient quantity of apples in proper storages and let the consumer have a regular supply during the whole apple consuming season, and a very thorough and practical method of distribution.

The Railroads' Duty

"The railroad companies will need to make concessions in favor of the growers in order to encourage them to stick to the job by giving them lower freight rates, which can be done without decreasing the earnings per car or increasing the tonnage by providing cars that will be perfectly safe for shipping during the cold winter season and hauling 40,000 pounds of apples for the same money that they now haul 30,000 pounds of apples and 10,000 pounds of ice, saving to the grower 25 per cent of the present charge, which will on the large volume of business that is bound to follow represent the difference between the success and failure of many orchardists."

Women voters are getting busy.

Association Will Put Up City Ticket of Its Own

Home Protective Organization Holds Meeting, Endorses Mayor Blanchar and Recorder Howe, but Decides to Name Candidates for Other Places--Want Stringent Enforcement of Liquor Laws.

At a meeting of the Home Protective Association held at the Christian church Sunday afternoon it was decided to put up a complete ticket at the coming city election and also to petition the city council to pass an ordinance drawn up by the association calculated to effect a more stringent enforcement of the liquor laws in the city.

Mayor Blanchar and City Recorder Howe were unanimously endorsed.

Professor Gibson presided and Albert Canfield acted as secretary. A. W. Onthank brought up the question of whether they would be justified in going before the city council and asking for an ordinance giving the city authorities greater power to enforce violations of the liquor laws. The meeting expressed itself as in favor of such action and the proposed ordinance was read. It includes provisions which are intended to compel enforcement and heavy penalties are attached in case of violations.

Short talks on the local liquor question were made by Leslie Butler, A. W. Onthank, W. S. Nichol, Albert Canfield, J. M. Wood, Mrs. J. J. Edgington, Mrs. R. P. Orr and others.

The ladies of the W. C. T. U. maintained that the principles for which they stand should be represented on the city council.

It was decided to appoint a committee to select candidates. This committee is composed as follows: Leslie Butler, A. W. Onthank, W. S. Nichol, and E. O. Hall.

W. S. Nichol proposed that a register should be kept by the drug stores and that these registers should show when and to whom each package of liquor is sold, also the doctor issuing the prescription. He also suggested that the registers should be left open for public inspection.

A committee was appointed to wait on Representatives C. H. Stranahan

and J. E. Anderson and Senator R. R. Butler in an effort to get them to pledge themselves to support Governor West in his fight for a stricter enforcement of the prohibition law in dry territory.

It was declared to be the most important that a full vote of the women in the city should be polled in order to assist in the success of the association's ticket. The question of where women should register was asked and a committee was appointed to confer with City Recorder Howe and get information on the subject.

The executive committee, which will frame the ticket, will report at a call meeting to be held in the near future.

ROADS MUST HAVE TIME TO MOVE GROPS

Problems in storage and transportation was the principal topic discussed at the conference of fruitgrowers in connection with the fifth National Apple Show at Spokane.

A feature was a communication from Howard Elliott, of St. Paul, president of the Northern Pacific Railway, in which he urged that since it has been proved to be a physical impossibility for railroads to transport fruit to market within a few weeks after harvest, the pressing question now for the growers is storage and how to make profitable as by-products such fruit as would not stand shipping.

A school conducted by experts to teach up-to-date methods of fruit packing was one of the main features in connection with the apple show.

J. D. Sears, who has been spending the summer here with John Weaver, left Friday for New York. Mr. Sears made many friends here who will hope for another visit.

KELLY BROTHERS BUILD WAREHOUSE

Kelly Brothers have just completed the construction of a large warehouse on a lot purchased by them and located just west of the vinegar factory. The building is constructed of corrugated iron and is 50 by 100 feet in size. Messrs. Kelly intend to use it for storing their hay, grain, orchard and other supplies and it will materially increase their facilities for catering to their customers.

DR. DYOTT TO TALK FOR ASSOCIATION

Another meeting of the School and Home Association will be held this coming Friday evening at the High School building at 7:45 o'clock. Dr. Luther R. Dyott of Portland will speak on "A New View of Boy Life." All the patrons of the school are cordially invited to attend, and please remember that the dues for 1912-13 of 25 cents are payable at any time.

Complete Reproduction of Valley Seen at Show

Probably no other exhibit at the Pacific Northwest Land Products Show in Portland this week has attracted more favorable comment and admiration than has Hood River's artistic display showing an exact miniature of the valley as viewed from across the Columbia River. The reproduction of the valley is 12 by 14 feet in size and it includes a landscape at once beautiful and magnificent. It is strikingly effective.

When the local Commercial Club undertook to compete at the show by entering an artistic display, the idea of reproducing the valley came as a happy thought and met with instantaneous response. Prizes offered in this class amount to \$600 for the first prize, \$300 for the second, \$200 for the third and \$100 for the fourth. The cost of the Hood River display was about \$200 and this amount was guaranteed by local business men.

The services of a competent and resourceful artist were secured in Portland for two weeks and he has put all his time upon this artistic display. The reproduction of the valley is topographically correct, showing the floor of the upper and lower valleys, the river, roads, orchards, surrounding hills, city and ranch houses, the latter all reproduced in small models.

At the end of the valley, true to nature, Mt. Hood rears its snow-capped head. To complete the artistic impression automatically controlled lights throw varying shades of light upon the scene. The replica is enclosed on all sides and the impression

conveyed is remarkably lifelike. Crowds of persons have been constantly before the exhibit.

In order to comply with the requirements of the contest an exhibit of Hood River apples is to be seen just in front of the reproduction of the valley, the display representing the varieties especially grown here.

Points are to be counted in this exhibit on beauty of design, effective presentation of apples, color harmony, decorative material and general effect. The idea is to show first the apples and then the valley in which they were produced.

Secretary Scott of the Commercial Club has taken an active interest in this exhibit, having made several trips to Portland to supervise the various details and much of its success is due to his effort.

MAYOR BLANCHAR WILL BE CANDIDATE

A petition was circulated the last of the week asking Mayor E. O. Blanchar to consent to become a candidate for re-election to the office. This petition was signed by all the leading business men of the city. There were 135 names attached when it was presented to Mr. Blanchar the first of the week. In view of the unanimous request that he become a candidate Mr. Blanchar expressed his willingness to accept the nomination.