



OREGON in 1900 produced a fruit crop valued at over \$2,000,000, according to an estimate made for the New Year's Oregonian by Hon. E. L. Smith, president of the State Board of Horticulture. Shortages in the Willamette Valley prune crop and in the peach crop of Southern Oregon materially reduced the total. Not to exceed 5 per cent of the area of the state that is adapted to horticulture is planted to trees.

Horticulture is in better condition than ever before in the history of Oregon. Modern methods of caring for the orchard and in picking and packing the fruit for market prevail among progressive orchardists. Those who neglect their trees are falling and dropping out of business and new men are taking their places. This satisfactory state of affairs has been brought about by the State Board of Horticulture, assisted by the fruitdealers of Portland. In former years some kind of a market was found for nearly all the fruit that was sent to Portland. If local sale failed, the fruit was shipped to Puget Sound, British Columbia and Alaska. Last year Portland dealers refused to handle diseased fruit, and rigid inspection at Seattle, Vancouver, Tacoma and other northern points closed those markets against it. This result was that, compared with previous years, only a small percentage of poor fruit was sent to foreign markets. The remainder was sold in the local market, and was of better quality than that of previous years. As this fruit is grown within a few miles from Portland, and was last year of excellent quality, growers living at a distance realize that if they are to meet the new competition they must grow a product that will sell. Both orchardists and dealers are well satisfied with the year's work. By a little firmness dealers have virtually established grades of fruit for the Portland market, and growers are encouraged to do their best now that poor stuff will not sell at home and cannot be shipped to Washington and British Columbia without being set aside and destroyed.

The growth of the canning industry at home and the opening of Asia encourage larger production. Until about three years ago nearly all fruit that could not be readily disposed of in the local market was wasted. Canners, cider mills and preserving establishments are springing up in many towns and this "waste" is now converted into jelly, jams and chutneys. The extent of the Asiatic market is not realized by growers. In the year ended June 30, 1900, Asia and the Pacific islands bought American fruit, nuts and raisins principally from the state of Washington, for \$2,500,000. These sales can be increased by many times. Through correspondence with Consuls and dealers, Secretary Deech, of the State Board of Horticulture, has learned that there is quite a field for operation at Shanghai, Hong Kong, Nagasaki, Tokio and even in Vladivostok. Apples shipped last fall to Vladivostok, were well received. Nagasaki regularly imports apples from Portland and will become a large customer in the near future. Siberia's population is 8,000,000, but on the basis of the population of Russia in Europe, the country is capable of sustaining 80,000,000 people.

Pacific Coast prunes are rapidly supplanting the fine, but expensive, French product, and the low-grade German prunes in the German market. There is nothing at Berlin that can compete with the dried pears and peaches and the evaporated apples from the United States. The tedious and expediting inspection of dried fruits at the German frontier as a precaution against the San Jose scale, has been discontinued, so that the way is now open to an unrestricted trade.

FRUIT CROP \$2,000,000.

West Expansion of Oregon's Horticultural Interests.

No occupation connected with the cultivation of the soil has had to contend with so many adverse conditions during the past decade as has horticulture. Not only the codlin moth, but the numerous family of aphids, pernicious scales and spruce growth threatened the very existence of the industry. Some orchardists in sheer discouragement cut down their trees and devoted their land to other purposes. But gradually science has come to the aid of the fruitgrower. Entomologists have traced the life history of these dreaded destroyers and pointed out vulnerable lines of attack. Our experiment stations, also, contributed valuable assistance. Experiment followed experiment until it was satisfactorily demonstrated that the sulphate of copper would check fungus growths, and that an arsenical treatment was fatal to the larvae of the codlin moth.

The up-to-date fruitgrower believes that he is master of the situation, and has taken new courage. Other causes have contributed to this revival of interest and rapid expansion of our fruit industry. The Oregon horticulturist has not been slow to discern that he could not be more happily situated for the distribution of his products, and that this North Pacific country commands the best markets of the world. He is in easy touch with five transcontinental roads, ready to deliver his harvest to every important transportation line in North America, and he rejoices in the near advent of a trans-Pacific line that will introduce him to the subjects of the Mikado and to his Muscovite neighbors. On the north, now rapidly peopling that vast country, Siberia. The man who plants an orchard today, will be able to reach markets that supply half the world with his fruit crop.

In a recent visit to Rogue River Valley I found a grower packing a large order for New Orleans, and more recently a neighboring orchardist exchanged the product of 15 acres in apples for \$200, British gold, for export to Liverpool. Spitznberg and Baldwin shipped from an O. R. & N. station in the Middle Columbia district are now being enjoyed in Los Angeles, New York, Honolulu, Cape Nome, Manila, Shanghai, Nagasaki and elsewhere. Our apples, prunes, cherries and small fruits, have already become the standard of excellence wherever introduced, and recently quotations were invited for thousand-barrel lots of apples for export to Japan. With direct and rapid transit to this wide-awake people and especially to Siberia, we are assured of a rapidly increasing market for the products of our orchards.

The State Board of Horticulture during the past year endeavored to make a horticultural survey of the state and to approximate the amount of land available for fruitgrowing and the amount now in fruit. The value of our orchards runs into millions of dollars and the fruit gathered from them in 1900 exceeded in value \$2,000,000. Yet only about 5 per cent of land adapted to orcharding is now appropriated to that purpose. Oregon invites thousands of horticulturists to subdivide many fold the value of her lands, and, paradoxical as it may seem, the more we grow the more buyers come to us and

the greater the demand. It is, indeed, true that many errors have been committed in the past through want of knowledge of physical conditions, and there are yet doubting Thomases, who scoff at modern scientific methods, but they are fast dropping to the rear, in an age where the fittest only survive. The new horticulture demands men of adaptation and who will combine science with field work; men who love their occupation, believe in its nobility and gather from the miracle of growth and fruition other values than those of the markets.

E. L. SMITH,
President State Board of Horticulture,
Hood River.

FIRST DISTRICT.

Value of Crop Last Year Footed Up
Nearly \$440,000.

The season of 1900, taken as a whole, was a very favorable and encouraging one to the Oregon fruitgrower. Unfavorable weather in the Spring cut the prune crop short, but Summer and Fall were all that could be desired, and fruit generally was of the finest quality ever produced. The Italian prunes, especially, were magnificent. They were well evaporated and generally carefully packed and will win golden opinions everywhere. Even with the immense European and California crops our prunes are in great demand for export, and large quantities of them will be consumed in England, France and Germany. Small quantities of them have been placed in the Oriental markets and among the Russians in Siberia, where they have been well received. Without doubt, an immense trade can and will be worked up with those countries. However, the beginning will have to be made with our smaller and cheaper grades of prunes. Those countries, with their cheap labor, are not yet able to consume much high-priced fruit. The question confronting the fruitgrowers of the Pacific Coast is, "What shall we do with our small prunes?" Here is the answer: "Send them to the markets of the East, where once thoroughly introduced they will always be in demand."

The prune crop of the first district, including Multnomah, Clackamas, Yamhill, Washington, Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties, for 1900, amounted to 2,238,000 pounds, dried, which, at the low estimate of 3 cents per pound, netted the growers \$67,140. The apple crop amounted to about \$3,000, and that of berries, grapes, peaches, pears, etc., to fully \$200,000. The canneries, cider mills, and vinegar factories put up a product amounting to \$125,000, bringing the total value of the output of the district to \$192,140. This is a good showing, but it might have been vastly better in the apple line if growers could have been made to realize the necessity of more spraying for the codlin moth. However, the lesson is being learned, and every year shows a great increase in the amount and the effectiveness of the spraying done. Careful orchardists year after year have secured from 90 to 98 per cent of clean apples, and others realize that they can do the same. The action of the Board of Horticulture in preventing the sale of wormy

fruit last year will be a great stimulus to good spraying in 1901.

Several satisfactory shipments of apples have been made to the Oriental and Siberian markets, merely the beginning of an immense trade for the future.

One of the most encouraging features of the fruit industry is the growth of the canning and preserving business. The Willamette Valley is pre-eminently adapted to the growing of small fruits and berries, and there should be a canner in every important town in the Valley. Those now in operation have paid remunerative prices to the grower for his fruit and in turn have sold their packs at good prices. Canners are proposed for Newberg, McMinnville, Dallas and Corvallis, for the coming season.

WILBUR K. NEWELL,
Commissioner First District.
Dillie.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Area Adapted to Horticulture Compared at Least 435,000 Acres.

The Second Horticultural District comprises Marion, Polk, Benton, Linn, Lane and Lincoln Counties. Nearly all of this territory is in the Willamette Valley. The approximate acreage in commercial orchards, not including old apple orchards and home fruit gardens, is as follows:

County	Acres	County	Acres
Marion	1,200	Lane	1,300
Polk	1,500	Lincoln	400
Benton	1,400		
Linn	1,200	Total	12,000

The orchards are scattered over an area containing about 13,000 square miles.

While some of this territory is mountainous and much is too low and flat for successful fruitgrowing, only a small portion of the land adapted to fruit culture is occupied. There are over 700,000 acres in the district, and it is estimated that at least 435,000 acres are adapted to the successful culture of fruit. By comparing the available acreage with that now devoted to fruit, it will readily appear that scarcely a beginning has been made in fruit culture as compared with its possible development.

Prune the Principal Fruit.

The prune is the principal fruit grown in the district, though many are turning their attention to apples and small fruits. With the advent of more canneries and plants for manufacturing jams, jellies and other products, the culture of small fruits can probably be enlarged. Such manufacturing concerns should be encouraged. There are two canneries in the district, one at Eugene and the other at Salem. Both are owned by the Allen Packing Company. The Salem cannery ran during the entire fruit season and furnished a market for the surplus fruits of all kinds produced in that vicinity. The continued operation of this plant will greatly stimulate the production of fruits suitable for canning and affords profitable employment for the owners of many small farms.

There is apparently a wide field for the sale of our products, soon to open across the Pacific. From the exporter of our fruit, whether green, dried or preserved, to the grower and even those who have their labor to sell, all should be interested in the development of our fruit trade and be aware of the opportunities which are now presented. It is only through the constant, intelligent and united effort of all that we can secure

and hold the trade to which our position and resources entitle us.

Owing to the light crop of prunes the past season the value of our fruits was not so great in 1900 as in previous years. It is estimated as follows for the Second district: Dried prunes, 3,425,000 pounds, valued at \$14,125.50; other fruits (green), value \$9,825; total value, \$135,642.50.

An industry closely related to the production of fruit is the growing of nursery stock. In this branch of business the Willamette Valley excels any other portion of the Pacific Northwest. Soil and climate are ideal for the production of choice, well-rooted trees, and more than \$100,000 is sent into this district annually in return for the nursery trees, which are shipped to all parts of the West.

L. T. REYNOLDS,
Commissioner Second District.
Salem.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Production Last Year Amounted to Over \$220,000.

The horticultural industry is constantly growing in the third district, which embraces Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Coos and Curry Counties. Douglas, Jackson and Josephine are the principal producers. The remaining counties, owing to want of transportation facilities, and their natural adaptability to stockgrowing and dairying, have not given the industry the attention it otherwise would have received.

The peach crop last year was comparatively a failure in Jackson and Josephine. Jackson County produced about 2000 boxes, against an average crop of

150,000 boxes. Often the crop runs to between 200,000 and 250,000 boxes.

Apples in Douglas, Jackson and Josephine were about an 80 per cent of a crop for the orchards that are in bearing. Fifty per cent of the orchards planted have not yet come into bearing.

Orchards are each year learning more about insect pests and fungous diseases, and the remedies successfully to combat them. The San Jose scale has lost its terror for the orchardist, as practical application with the spray pump with the remedies prescribed by the State Board of Horticulture has demonstrated that the pest can be exterminated. Perhaps the greatest pest the applegrower has to contend with is the codlin moth, or apple worm, which in 1900 damaged the apple crop on an average of 60 per cent. Last year, owing to energetic spraying with greater knowledge of the habits of the moth, the damage was reduced to about 25 per cent on the average.

Weeks and Orr, of Medford, Olwell Bros., of Central Point, and H. B. Miller's orchard at Grant's Pass, aggregating 250 acres in apples, by energetic, intelligent spraying reduced the damage from codlin moths to 2 per cent, leaving them 98 per cent of apples free of worms. The success of large growers in saving their apples from the moth is an object-lesson that other growers will profit by another year.

Methods in picking, packing and selling the fruit crop are being better understood each year, and as system is evolved through experience the cost to the grower in putting his fruit on the market is growing less each year. As compared with any year of the past, the fruit industry of the Third District has made much progress.

I estimate production in this district

money in fruitgrowing, but I find that nearly all who have gone into the fruit industry on a business basis are doing well. A good many of the fruitgrowers put out an orchard and never pay attention to it, and it is mostly those who fail. I know a man in Hood River who came there six years ago. He bought a piece of land and paid part down. The other part he has paid within the last few years, and made enough to have a bank account. In 1900 he realized from five to six boxes to a tree, and they averaged \$1.50 per box. Last year he had a large crop of fruit, which will net him from \$500 to \$1000. So any one can see that there is something in fruitgrowing, and what can be done if a person tends to his orchard in the proper manner.

With a large crop of fruit all over the country last year, we had no trouble in selling our fruit at good figures.

The Fourth District has 12,300 acres in orchards, distributed as follows: Wasco County, 6000 acres; Sherman, 300; Morrow, 300; Gilliam, 150; Crook, 200; Wheeler, 1500. The area adapted to horticulture comprises 60,000 acres, as follows: Wasco, 20,000; Sherman, 300; Morrow, 300; Gilliam, 600; Crook, 30,000; Wheeler, 400. Value of the crop produced last year was: Wasco, \$88,000; Sherman, \$500; Morrow, \$800; Gilliam, \$24,500; Crook, \$3500; Wheeler, \$6000—total, \$118,500.

EMILE SCHANNO,
Commissioner Fourth District.
The Dalles.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Late Ripening Grapes Growers a Distinct Advantage.

There are few places in Eastern Oregon where the farmer cannot grow all of the hardy fruits and in many locations the more tender varieties. Apples, pears, cherries, plums, apricots, peaches and grapes mature perfectly. Berries of every variety seem to flourish and in some more favored spots tomatoes and melons are grown and shipped by the carload. It is not so much a question of the kinds of fruit which may be grown as it is of the special varieties which will prove of greatest commercial value. It is estimated that there are 65,000 acres of land in this district of value as fruit-producing land. The industry is yet in its infancy. Every year but demonstrates more clearly that the larger our supply of good fruit, the better fares the grower, when all things are considered. Of no other product of the farm is it more apparent, that we must not only have a choice quality but must have it in large quantity. If we wish to enter the world's best markets, cheap and rapid transportation we must have and that can only be obtained by sending larger quantities.

Eastern Oregon possesses many substantial advantages to the commercial fruitgrower. First, the trees come into bearing at an earlier age. A difference of even one year, and often it is three or four years, is of no small consideration when one is waiting for returns on an investment. An instance that has come under my personal observation is that of an apple orchard. In 1900 it bore fruit for the first time, four years from planting, and yielded the grower 30 boxes of fruit to the acre, which at the market price meant an income of \$30 per acre. Last year the same tree yielded 250 boxes which at the lowest possible figure and clear of expenses should yield the grower \$100 per acre.

The land is cheap, not to be compared in prices to that of land in places that have become famous for their fruit and yet our fruits often surpass theirs in many particulars. Our fruits stand up well for shipment. Our cool nights give to them a firmness unknown to fruits grown where the nights are hot. Our fruits reach the big markets after they have ceased to be overstocked, and while they may never bring the fancy prices brought here the first fruits of the season, they will always come as a refreshing surprise on the heels of the last run of soft fruits from warmer districts. It is a surprise to many to know that we can produce sweet cherries that in size, color, flavor and firmness cannot be surpassed. They ripen in July and August and enter the Eastern market after the California fruit is gone.

JUDD GERB,
Commissioner Fifth District.
Cove.

UMATILLA COUNTY FRUIT.

Profit in Horticulture in the Free-water Country.

In the Free-water region, Umatilla County, fruit trees come into bearing when they are 3 years old, berries and grapes the second year. Some idea of the profits that can be and are made from fruitgrowing and gardening may be derived from the following table, which is conservative:

One acre strawberries, 4000 pounds, at 4 cents	160
One acre blackberries, 6000 pounds, at 5 cents	300
One acre grapes, 2000 pounds, at 10 cents	200
One acre raspberries, 3000 pounds, at 10 cents	300
One acre plums, 1000 pounds, at 10 cents	100
One acre peaches, 1000 pounds, at 10 cents	100
One acre cherries, 1000 pounds, at 10 cents	100
One acre watermelons, 1000 pounds, at 10 cents	100
One acre melons, 1000 pounds, at 10 cents	100

The following illustration shows what has actually been accomplished in the fruit industry around Free-water: D. W. Black gives figures showing the returns on an acre and a half of strawberries, 45 crates brought \$750; plucking berries, \$100.25; cost of crates, \$28; net returns, \$525.25.

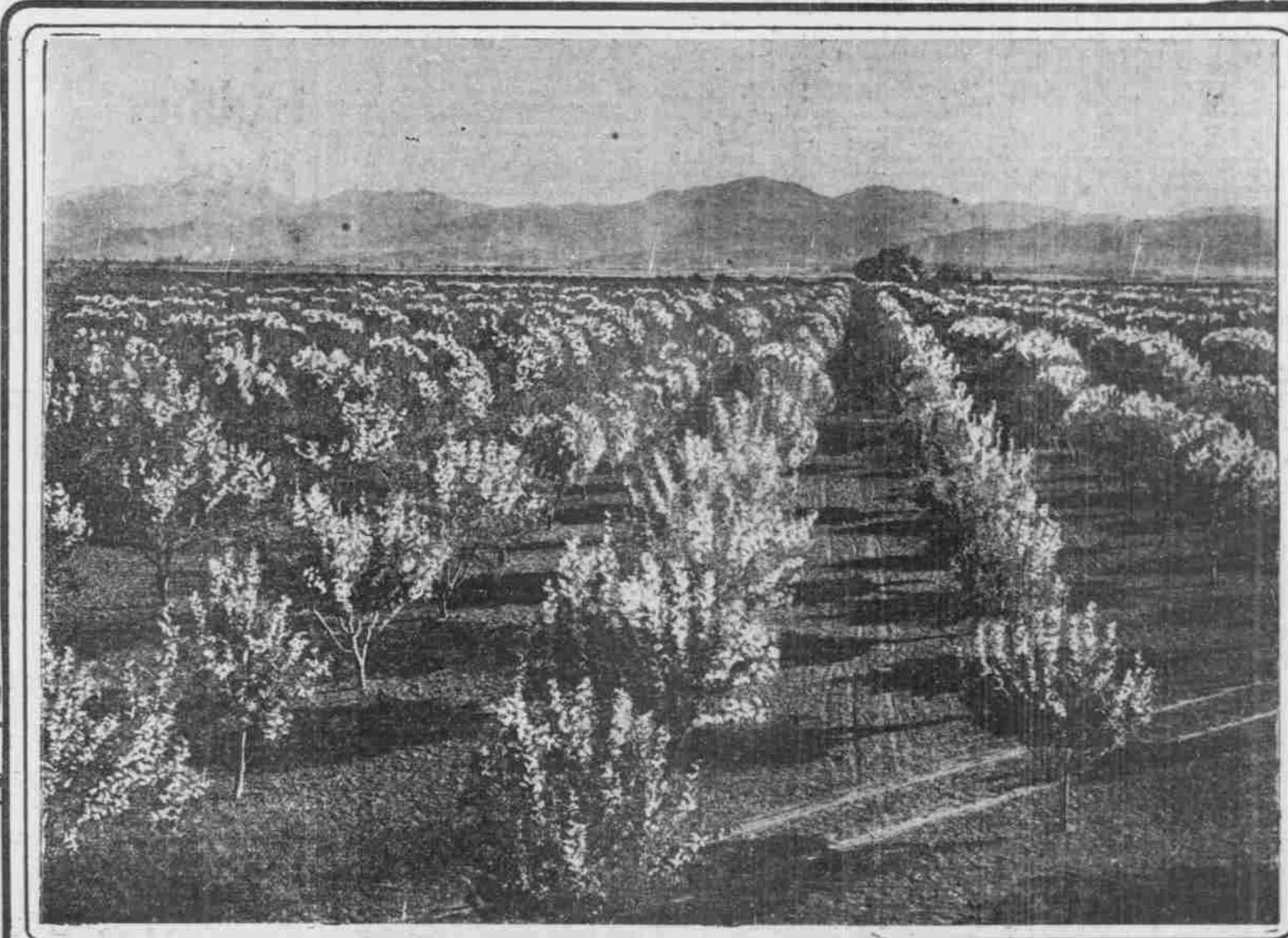
William Clark, living on the Nichols place, about two miles from Free-water, whose strawberry patch consists of one and three-quarter acres, marketed 600 crates of berries. The gross receipts were \$650, and after deducting expense of picking, packing and shipping, there was left \$400 net profit.

Logging Activity Near Corvallis.

There is much activity in logging up the Willamette, a few miles above Corvallis. Reuben Kiger has sold all the ash, maple and fir on his 50-acre farm on Kiger Island. The buyer is the Corvallis saw mill. The prices paid are: For ash, \$5 per 1000 feet; for maple, \$4; for fir, \$1. The timber must be cut and taken away within a year from March. The ground from which it is taken is to be seeded by Mr. Kiger to grass for pasture land.

Sawmill on the Mohawk.

Seaver Bros. are erecting a small sawmill at the junction of the Mohawk and McKenzie Rivers, with a capacity of 4000 or 6000 feet of lumber per day. They will also put out 50 acres of hops next year, in addition to their 30 acres already in cultivation.



A Typical Southern Oregon Orchard



Picking Apples

FROM PHOTOS. FURNISHED BY OLWELL BROS.,
CENTRAL POINT, OR.

